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56-56<sup>8</sup> - 104. 105. - Pulp<sup>t</sup> 51. 52

Parts 1-2 & 3 all published.







V I R T U E S  
O F  
BRITISH HERBS.

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By D<sup>R</sup>. H I L L.

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1771.







32717

*B Wood*  
V I R T U E S  
O F  
BRITISH HERBS.

WITH THE  
HISTORY, DESCRIPTION, and FIGURES,  
of the several Kinds;

An Account of the DISEASES they will cure;  
The Family Methods of giving them; and the  
Management of the Patients in each Disease:

C O N T A I N I N G,

C U R E S O F  
HEAD-ACHS by FEVERFEW Tea,  
with Two Singular Instances.

C U R E S O F  
CONSUMPTIONS by COLTSFOOT Tea,

Of HECTIC FEVERS by the DAISY,  
COLICS by Leaves of CHAMOMILE,  
And  
AGUES by its Flowers.

A Recommendation of the BIDENS CERNUA to supply the  
Place of the CEYLON ACMELLA, so celebrated  
in the Gravel; but not to be had with us.

And a CASE, with all its Circumstances and Symptoms, of the  
HOOPING-COUGH, cured by a Tea of the  
fresh Root of ELECAMPANE.

The WHOLE illustrating that important Truth,  
That the PLANTS of our own Country will cure all its DISEASES.

To which are added,  
CAUTIONS against the Two OTHONNAS, destructive of Sheep.

A WORK intended to be useful to the Sick, and to their Friends; to  
private Families; and to the Charitable, who would help their Neighbours.

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No. I. To be continued Occasionally, as new Virtues are discovered in PLANTS;  
or neglected, or doubtful ones ascertained by Experience.

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By JOHN HILL, M. D.  
MEMBER of the IMPERIAL ACADEMY.

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The FOURTH EDITION, with ADDITIONS.

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L O N D O N :

Printed for R. BALDWIN, in Pater-noster-Row; J. RIDLEY, in St. James's-  
Street; J. NOURSE, T. BECKET, P. ELMSLY, J. CAMPBELL, in  
the Strand; T. DAVIS, in Piccadilly; T. DAVIES, in Russel-Street,  
Covent-Garden; ROBSON, in Bond-Street; WHITE, in Fleet-Street;  
PEARCE, in Cheap-side; RILEY, in Curzon-Street; and RICHARDSON  
and URQUHART, at the Royal Exchange.

M,DCC,LXXI.







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## INTRODUCTION.

**T**HE Author having read a great deal, and seen something, of the Virtues of Plants of our own Growth, intends here, to the best of his abilities, to be useful: recounting all that is justly attributed to these Plants by respected Authors; and confirming, by authentic cases, whatever has been repeated within his own experience.

Having lately written a History of the British Plants in a succinct manner, and in the Latin language; intended principally for the use of

A 3                      Physicians,



Physicians, he proposes here to deliver the Accounts of their Virtues, and Rules for administering them ; fitted for general service, and in our own tongue : and to lay down the whole more at large, than was needful to those who were already acquainted with the practice of Physic.

The first care will be to acquaint the Reader perfectly with the Plant that is recommended to be used : and to prevent all occasion of error, a Figure and History will be given, not only of the right kind, but of all others of the same Name, and general Nature ; which might be mistaken for it ; tho' they have no particular virtue, or perhaps have even contrary qualities.

Next, the Disease in which the Herb, thus known with certainty, may be serviceable, will be so explained, that all error in that article may be also avoided.

And



And the last care will be to direct in what manner the salutary Plant may best be used in families.

Beside the English Name of every Herb, there is given the Latin one : and this, it is earnestly recommended to all persons, to accustom themselves to use. There is great and valuable knowledge easily to be acquired on this subject; and it should be propagated universally : but this way alone that can be done.

The English Names of Herbs are equivocal ; the same word is often used by our authors as a Name for many different Plants : but in the Latin all is certain. As our own Names can be only understood in our own country ; when we use a Latin one the whole world knows what we speak of : and by the arrangement here, (when the Tables of Method relating to the whole are published,) as all Plants of a like kind are placed together, and their distinguishing characters are given, any will be found with ease.



Lungwort is equally the English Name of a kind of *Hawkweed*, of a sort of *Moss*, and of a Plant approaching to the nature of *Hound's-tongue*: now when an Herb is directed under that Name, no one can tell which of all these is meant. In Latin their Names are as different as their Nature; and in using those, there can be no mistake. A thousand instances of like kind might be produced: but one is as good as a thousand.

It will be happy, if, by the same means, the knowledge of Plants also become more general. The study of them is pleasant; and the exercise of it healthful. He who seeks the Herb for his cure; will often find it half effected by the walk: and when he is acquainted with the useful kinds, he may be more peoples, beside his own, Physician.

This knowledge is not to be sought in the old Herbals; they contain but a small part  
of



of it: and what they hold is locked up in obscurity. They are excessive in their praises: and in saying too much; they say nothing. All virtues are, in a manner, attributed to all Plants; and 'tis the skill alone of a Physician that can separate, (in those that have any) which is the true. Turn to the Herbals of Gerard Parkinson, or the more ancient Turner, and you shall find, in many instances, virtues of the most exalted kind related of Herbs, which, if you were to eat daily as fallads, would cause no alteration in the body.

But we are not to conclude from this, that Herbs do not possess real virtues. Very many of them do; and of kinds so eminent, that physic would be but a poor art without them. To distinguish these, and to teach persons not bred to physic how to apply them, is the good intended in this Publication: and even beyond the bounds of written lessons, such opportunities, as the Author of it has to promote this purposed utility, will never be withheld from any.

If



x      I N T R O D U C T I O N.

If any one entertains a doubt concerning the Plant he would use, after comparing it with the Figure and Description, the Gardener at *Bayswater* shall give a sample of it, for asking : and all Persons may command the farther Opinion and Directions of the Author when they please.

St. James's Street,  
Nov. 3, 1771.

J. HILL.

V I R T U E S



---

V I R T U E S  
O F  
B R I T I S H H E R B S.

---

H E R B S

Which have a radiated Flower ; growing  
in a divided Cup.

---

I. O T H O N N A.

S E G G R O M.

Plate I.

The Cup is deeply divided, into a number of  
long, flat Teeth.

I. O T H O N-



## 1. OTHONNA INTEGRIFOLIA.

## MOUNTAIN RAGWORT.

Plate 1. Fig. 1.

The Leaves are undivided.

This is a Weed of our high Pasture Grounds; but not common: it scarce exceeds eight Inches in height; but it grows upright; and has no Branches.

The Leaves are pale, thick, and downy.

The Flowers are of a light yellow; they grow in a Cluster at the Top of the Stalk, and have a Circle of narrow Leaves under them.

They blow in July.

Beside the Virtues which are known in Plants; it will be useful to give Cautions of their Danger. Careful farmers say this hurts their sheep: that their wool grows loose on eating it. Taken inwardly it is an acrid, and a dangerous purge. There is a kind, scarce differing from this, which manifests the same ill qualities, in Switzerland.

We



*Character Genericus*



*Othonna integrifolia*  
Mountain Ragwort.

*Othonna palustris*  
Marsh Flebane







We have in this, and the succeeding Plant, a striking instance of the value of Latin names. Othonna, or Cineraria, belongs to both these; and each has, under these names, a just distinction by its second term; the one by Integrifolia, and the other by Palustris. The name Othonna belongs to no British Plant beside these two; and will be understood, not only here, but in all nations: Whereas the Term Seggrom, which is distinctly and truly the name of these Plants, is in our language applied also to the common Ragwort, an Herb of our Pastures, and to Groundsell, a Weed of our Gardens: and, to encrease the confusion, it is, in common speaking, not given to either of these two; for custom calls one of these Ragwort, and the other Fleabane. Many words would be needful to explain these equivocal expressions, if used in directing the Plants for Medicine; and perhaps, after all, it would not be done well: but the Latin name removes all doubt at once: it belongs to nothing else, and it is known universally; nor will any



future innovation, however supported, change it in the judicious mind ; or prevent the Plant's being distinctly and perfectly known, by all persons, under this denomination.

## 2. OTHONNA PALUSTRIS.

### MARSH FLEABANE.

Plate 1. Fig. 2.

The Leaves are deeply cut.

This is an inhabitant of our marshes, toward the sea : a perennial Plant.

It grows to a Yard high, but with few Branches.

The Leaves are of a fresh green ; very smooth, and delicate.

The Flowers are yellow, large, and not unhandsome.

They blow in August.

Its qualities too much resemble those of the  
preceding



preceding kind. Cattle, brought from other places, into some lands belonging to myself, near Whitlesea, in the Isle of Ely, have fallen into diseases on eating it: Those bred where it grows are observed not to touch it.

---

## H E R B S

Which have a radiated Flower, growing in a Cup, formed of one row of distinct Scales.

---

### 1. B I D E N S.

#### HEMP AGRIMONY.

Plate 2.

The Scales which compose the Cup are hollowed.

### 1. B I D E N S C E R N U A.

#### DROOPING HEMP AGRIMONY.

Plate 2. Fig. 1.

The Leaves embrace the Stalk at their base.

This



This is a common Plant about the ditches in Ireland : but it is scarce with us.

It has a branching reddish Stalk of about two Feet high.

The Leaves are of a deep, dull green, and smooth.

The Flowers are of a dead yellow : they hang their heads ; but the Tufts of Seed that follow stand upright.

It is an Annual ; it flowers in July, and lasts till the frost kills it.

This is one of the very many British Plants, concerning the Virtues of which we are perfectly ignorant. No one has yet tried it : but there are reasons to suppose its qualities are eminent. Cattle are not fond of it. This often is a mark of great medicinal virtues ; as well as sometimes of mischievous powers.

The smell is strong, and singular ; the taste is sharp, and biting, with a little bitterness.

There



There is a Plant, of Ceylon, called *Acmedla*, a kind of *Verbesina*, distinguished beyond all things in the cure of the Gravel. This has its very taste and smell, and flavour; and Chymistry has shewn their near resemblance: A careful successor of *Nebelius* made this trial; and 'tis pity some one has not, in like manner, examined into its qualities in medicine. 'Tis one of the Herbs to be recommended to the practising Physicians; and will not want its place among those hereafter to be examined, by the Author of these observations.

If there could want more proof of the propriety, nay the necessity, of speaking of Plants under their Latin names, we have another here before us. This Herb is here recommended to the practisers of physic, for trial, in a great and terrible, and yet a very common disease: now if we should have given it only its English name, *Hemp Agrimony*, that is also the name of the herb *Eupatorium*, a Plant as different from this as two things well can be from one another; in taste,



in smell, and virtues, as well as in its form: for this other Herb, called also Hemp Agrimony in English, is a purge.

Two persons, in two places, using those different Herbs under the same name, could never confirm, or so much as believe, each other's accounts: and there is no other way to truth in medicine, but by these mutual trials: But when we call the Herb by its distinct Latin name, *Bidens*, it is impossible this error should have place; or any other, when we apply farther to its second name, and its Description, and Figure here.

## 2. T U S S I L A G O.

### C O L T S F O O T.

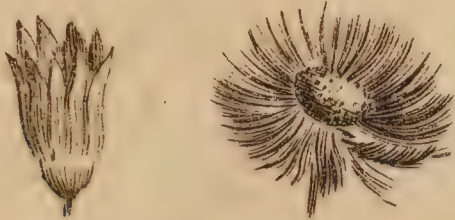
Plate 2.

The Scales which compose the Cup are flat.

## 1. T U S S I-



TUSSILAGO



Character Genericus



*Tussilago Farfara.*

Common Coltsfoot.

BIDENS



Character Genericus



*Bidens Cernua.*

Drooping Hemp Agrimony.







1. TUSSILAGO FARFARA.  
COMMON COLTSFOOT.

Plate 2. Fig. 2.

The Leaves are hearted.

This low Herb spreads its Root in damp and clayey grounds; from which the flowers rise early in Spring, before the Leaves appear; and fade, and are quite gone by that time these have attained their natural size: a thing that looked so singular to our ancestors, they called the Plant, *The Son before the Father*.

The Stalk is about seven Inches high, leafless, but hung about with skinny films; and on its top there stands only one Flower.

The Leaves, which are in their perfection when this part is quite gone, are roundish, and notched; as broad as one's hand; of a pale green; white and downy underneath; and of a tough, firm substance.



The Flower is lemon-coloured; and large.

The Root is perennial; and the Leaves are to be had till Winter. These are the part which contain its great virtue: they have a soft and mucilaginous, but somewhat bitter taste.

They are good in the Gravel, and Inflammations of the Kidneys; but their great virtue is in diseases of the Breast; in Asthmas particularly; and in Consumptions. The best way of taking Coltsfoot is in decoction; for it does not so fully or well communicate its virtues to spirit. The way to have them best of all for use is this:

Clip small a quantity of the Leaves fresh gathered; put them into an earthen pipkin, and pour upon them as much boiling water as will cover them. Let this stand all night. In the morning boil it a few minutes; and put in as much honey as will sweeten it. A half-pint  
basin



basin of this should be drank warm three times a day.

The patient should also have some of the Leaves dried and cut small, and smoke them as tobacco. This is a practice as old as the time of the Romans ; and present experience shews it right, and excellent.

Few things will do so much toward curing a Consumption, as Coltsfoot, used constantly these two ways.

Here let us stop a moment, and adore the goodness of the Divine Providence ; which makes the best things the most common ! The Seggoms, which can do only mischief, are found but in a few places : this, so full of excellence, grows at our doors ; and we tread it every where under our feet.



RADIATED HERBS,

WITH A

DOUBLE CUP.

---

HERBS

Which have a radiated Flower, growing  
in a Cup, composed of two Ranges  
of Scales.

---

1. BELLIS.

DAISY.

Plate 3.

The Cup is rounded, and its Scales are equal.

1. BELLIS



Character Genericus



*Bellis Perennis*  
Little Daisy









I. *BELLIS PERENNIS.*

LITTLE DAISY.

Plate 3.

One Flower only grows upon a Stalk.

This is the universal ornament of our pastures;  
a Perennial; flowering all the Summer.

Its leafless Stalk is three Inches high.

The Leaves, which grow from the Root, are  
oblong, smooth, and of a deep green.

Its Flowers, in their wildest and most simple  
state, are very pretty by their mixture of red  
and white; but when the gardener bestows  
culture on them, few things return it better:  
we see them grow double, large, full, quilled,  
and proliferous; young Flowers surrounding the  
older.

This is another Herb which Nature has made

B 4

common;



common ; because it may be useful.—The Daisy has great, but neglected qualities ; worthy of a serious attention.

Its Leaves contain these virtues. Their taste is that of Coltsfoot, but more mucilaginous ; and without its bitterness.

It is excellent against Hectic Fevers ; and internal Inflammations, of whatever kind ; and in whichever of the Viscera.

An infusion of it should be made as of the Coltsfoot, and just once boiled. It should then be drank in the same manner, with an equal quantity of milk.

Asses milk has ten times its effect if this be taken with it.

## 2. ANTHEMIS,

### CHAMOMILE.

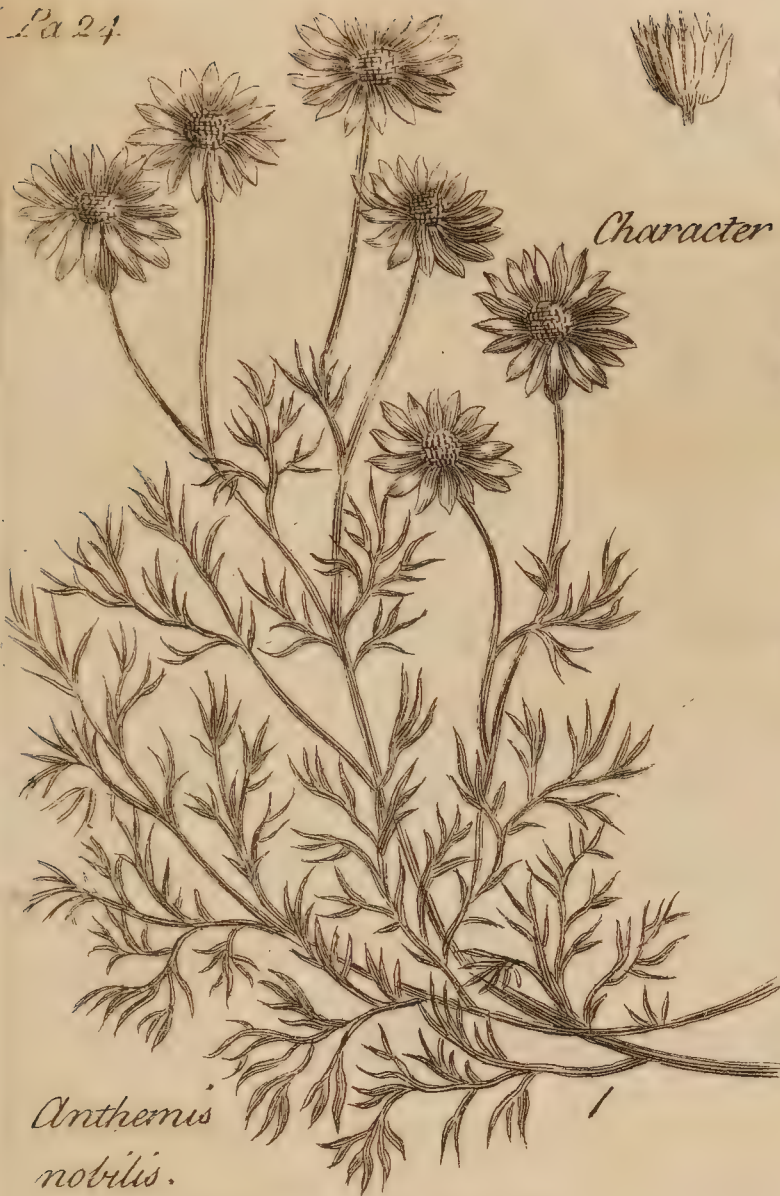
Plate 4.

The Cup is rounded, but the Scales are of unequal length.

## 1. ANTHE-



Character Genericus



*Anthemis nobilis.*

Sweet Chamamile



*Anthemis fœtida*

Stinking Mayweed



*Anthemis arvensis*

Corn Chamamile.



*Anthemis tinctoria*

Oxeye.







I. ANTHEMIS NOBILIS.  
SWEET-SCENTED CHAMOMILE.

Plate 4. Fig. 1.

The Leaves are three times divided, and the divisions are narrow.

This sweet Plant grows wild with us, on damp heaths, and by waters; and has much greater virtues there, than in our gardens.

'Tis a Perennial, scarce rising five or six Inches from the ground.

The Leaves are of a deep green, fragrant, and cut into very fine divisions.

The Flowers are large and white.

Nature offers them to us single; and in that state they have the greatest virtue; because those yellow Threads which then fill their center possess it highly: but 'tis the unlucky custom of the time to use them double from the gardens.

They blow in July and August.

All parts of this excellent Plant are full of  
virtue.



virtue. The Leaves, given in infusion, cure Colics ; and dispel wind from the Stomach ; and are excellent against Indigestion.

The Flowers are a fine and noble bitter. Few things are equal to them in strengthening the Stomach, and creating an appetite, as well as assisting digestion. But more than this, they will cure Agues. I have known them do it after the Bark has failed.

The best way of taking the Leaves is in a strong kind of Tea, in which way even that Colic which attends the Gravel yields to them.

When given to strengthen the Stomach, a Tea made strong of the single Flowers of the Wild Chamomile is best : and those who have not made it from such Flowers know less than half its virtue.

For Agues, the same kind of Flowers should be dried and powdered, and a scruple taken  
once



once in four hours ; and this repeated for four days.

An oil, distilled from these Flowers, is excellent in Colics ; and, what is very singular, it is blue.

## 2. ANTHEMIS COTULA.

### STINKING MAY WEED.

Plate 4. Fig. 2.

The center of the Flower rises, and the divisions of the Leaves swell in the middle.

This offensive Plant is common in plowed lands ; an annual Weed, that, by its abundance, often robs the crops of their best nourishment.

It grows to a Foot high, branched and spreading.

The Stalk is ruddy.

The Leaves are of a deep and blackish green, and of an ill smell.

The Flowers are white, with a high yellow disk, pointed at top.

They



They blow in May and June.

The Flowers have the same virtue with those of Chamomile, but in a very inferior degree, and are less agreeable.

The Leaves operate by urine, and sometimes by stool ; but both ways roughly and disagreeably. 'Tis strange that Hoffman thought these Leaves more emollient than those of Chamomile. Experience shews otherwise.

### 3. ANTHEMIS ARVENSIS.

### CORN CHAMOMILE.

Plate 4. Fig. 3.

The center of the Flower rises : the Leaves are thin like hairs.

This is the commonest Weed on our ditch banks.

It grows to a Foot and half high ; wild and spreading.

The



The Stalk is red and brittle.

The Leaves are of a dead pale green.

The Flowers are large, and white.

They blow in June, and last till Winter kills the Plant.

The qualities are those of the sweet Chamomile, but in a slight degree.

#### 4. ANTHEMIS TINCTORIA.

#### OXEYE CHAMOMILE.

Plate 4. Fig. 4.

The Leaves are deep cut, and their parts are dented.

This is a Perennial, native only of our northern counties; but there, it is a pasture Weed, not uncommon.

The Stalk is ruddy, two Foot high, and branchy.

The Leaves are glossy, of a fresh, pale green, and a little downy underneath.

The



The Flowers are of a gold yellow, large, and very handsome.

They blow in June.

The Flowers contain the virtue of the Plant. They promote urine ; and have often cured the Jaundice. They are to be dried, and carefully powdered. A dram is to be taken twice a day.

They are useful also in manufacture ; for they afford a yellow for the dyers.

## 5. ANTHEMIS MARITIMA.

### SEA · CHAMOMILE.

Plate 5.

The Leaves are thick and fleshy, and the Cups are downy.

This is an inhabitant of our damp grounds, toward the sea ; a very pretty creeping Plant.

The Stalk is crimson, branchy, and six Inches long ; but it scarce rises from the ground.

The



ANTHEMIS



*Anthemis Maritima*  
Sea Chamæmile





The Leaves are of a fresh, blueish green, and dotted.

The Flowers are small, and white, with a yellow disk.

They blow in June.

Their virtues are those of Chamomile; but slight and trifling.

Those who live about the sea coasts, where this Plant is common, use an infusion of the Flowers, for Agues; but the powder of the right kind is far better.

---

## H E R B S

Which have a radiated Flower, growing in a Cup, formed of many ranges of scaly Films.

I. INULA.

I. I N U L A.  
E L F W O R T.

Plate 6.

The Cup is wide, the Scales stand loose, and the lower range is leafy.

I. I N U L A H E L E N I U M.  
E L E C A M P A N E.

Plate 6. Fig. 1.

The Leaves are vast, rugged, long; and hoary underneath.

This is a native of our meadow grounds; and from its virtues is become common in our gardens.

It is a robust and stately Plant; a Perennial with a firm and a handsome appearance. It grows to four Foot high.

The Stalk is thick, ruddy, and branched a little.

The Leaves are of a dull, faint green.

The Flowers are large, and yellow.

They blow in July and August.

It



INULA



Character Genericus

*Inula dysenterica.*  
Middle Fleabane.

*Inula Helenium.*  
Elecampane.

*Inula pulicaria.*  
Small Fleabane.

*Inula Crithmoides.*  
Golden Sampire.







The Root, which is long and large, contains the virtues of the Plant : and few have greater.

It has a fragrant, very agreeable smell, and a spicy, sharp, and somewhat bitterish taste. It has long been famous for the cure of all diseases of the Breast ; and it has also great virtues in malignant fevers : but it has others ; and those more distinguishable than these : in strengthening the Stomach, and that way assisting digestion ; not in the manner of bitters, but as a warm, invigorating, and animating medicine, it has not its equal : and it cures the Chin-cough in children, when all else fails.

'Twere vain to expect these virtues in the dried Root, sold at druggists ; which has been baked, ground in a mill, and, tho' cheap enough in itself, yet mixed with flour, to make it cheaper. In that state it has little either of taste, smell, or virtue. The garden must supply it fresh to those who would know its real value. There, as it rises freely from Nature,

it is full of all these excellent qualities. The taste and smell, compared with the dry, will abundantly shew this, before we feel its good Effects.

The way of taking it is this :

Slice the fresh Root thin ; and to a quarter of a pound of it pour three pints of boiling water. After standing all night, boil it a few moments ; and, when cold, strain the Liquor off.

To a pint of this add a quarter of a pint of mountain wine ; if 'tis to be given to a grown person for disorders of the Stomach : and let a full wine glass of this be drank three times a day.

When it is intended for the Chin-cough, half the quantity of the Root will be sufficient. It need only be infused, not boiled : and instead of the wine, add a quarter of a pound of honey : then give two table-spoonfuls at a dose, four times a day.

Nor



Nor will the virtues of this Root, in curing this kind of Cough, appear at all strange to those who, practising rational phyfic, trace up diseases to their cause.

The Chin-cough is not of the nature of those Coughs which follow Colds; it has not the same origin, nor is it seated in the same place. A tough and sourish phlegm, lodged on the coats of the Stomach, and adhering to them, is the cause. Nature at once shews this; and points out the way to the cure; by childrens vomiting up such phlegm, after their violent fits of coughing in this disease; and always finding relief from it.

Now, of all medicines yet known, Elecampane Root, when fresh and full of virtue, warms, strengthens, and invigorates the Stomach the best: and by that, cures the disease, and prevents its return.

This is not a new ; but only a neglected doctrine : Walschmid and Dolæus, great and excellent writers, tho' too little read at present, confirm it with reasons ; and by repeated observations.

Receive an instance of it here, at home :

Miss \*\*\* \*\*\*\*\*, of Soho, was brought to me, reduced almost to death by this disease. She coughed by fits for a length of time scarce credible ; and that with distracting efforts, and a sound that tore the hearts of all who saw, and heard her.

The nurse had given her Cup Moss ; and the apothecary mosaic gold ; in vain. They had fed her with fried mice, (according to a boasted family receipt) to loathing ; but that could be to no purpose. A physician of great worth had followed Sydenham faithfully, and the poor infant had been bled and purged till no  
strength



strength remained ; except in the disease : which grew still worse, as she grew weaker.

'Twas in this state I saw the poor, the emaciated little creature ; when I directed the Elecampane Root.

She first took a very gentle vomit, a few grains of Ipecacuanha. The efforts this occasioned were nothing ; compared but to an ordinary fit of coughing.

A few drops of Lettuce wine composed her for the night ; and next day she began to take the infusion, as here directed to be made, with honey, and only of half the strength : two ounces of the Root being used to three pints of water, and that without the boiling.

From the time she began this she used no other drink ; and from that time she gradually recovered,

Her body was, in the mean while, kept open; not by purges; for they irritate; but by glysters: and she became so well, that the servants here would not believe 'twas the same child, tho' brought by the same person.

What infinite good may arise from this easy remedy being once made universally known! 'Tis so innocent that none need fear to administer it. And if in any case circumstances rise which require particular advice, such as I can give, they always may command who want it.

Since the two first Editions of this Pamphlet were published, a great deal of good has been obtained by this Plant: and the more it is used, the more it will be esteemed.

## 2. INULA DYSENTERICA. MIDDLE FLEABANE.

Plate 6. Fig. 2.

The Stalk is woolly; and the Leaves are oblong, and clammy.



This is an ugly and ill-looking annual Weed, frequent on waste grounds and by way-fides.

It grows to a Foot high, with a few Branches.

The Leaves are pale, and whitish ; and stick to the Fingers on touching them.

The Flowers are of a light yellow.

They blow in August.

One scarce would think any thing resembling Elecampane in smell, would be disgusting : but this, tho' with the real flavour of that charming Herb, is highly so : and in its taste is acrid, and forbidding.

### 3. INULA PULICARIA.

#### SMALL FLEABANE.

Plate 6. Fig. 3.

The Rays of the Flower are very short : the Leaves are short and waved.

This is another ill-looking annual Weed, frequent in wet waste places.

It grows to eight Inches high ; but commonly lies, in part, upon the ground.

The Stalk is of a ruddy brown.

The Leaves are short, small, and of a dull dead green.

The Flowers are small, very poor, and of a dirty yellow.

They blow in August.

The smell of this and the former are supposed hateful to insects ; and the juice destructive of them.

#### 4. INULA CRITHMOIDES.

#### GOLDEN SAMPIRE.

Plate 6. Fig. 4.

The Leaves are three pointed.

This



This beautiful perennial Plant is the ornament of our sea marshes.

It grows to a Yard high, with many Branches.

The Leaves are of a blue green; thick, fleshy, and juicy.

The Flowers are of a gold yellow.

They blow in June.

## II.

C H R Y S A N T H E M U M

C O R N M A R Y G O L D.

The Cup is elliptic, and its Scales stand close :  
the inner range of them is thin.

I. C H R Y S A N T H E M U M

S E G E T U M.

C O R N M A R Y G O L D.

Plate 7. Fig. 1.

The Root Leaves are oblong, and deep dented.

This

This very beautiful Plant is an Annual, native of our corn fields.

It grows to two foot high, with many spreading Branches.

The Leaves are glossy, and of a blue green.

The Flowers are large, and of a gold yellow.

They blow in August.

2. C H R Y S A N T H E M U M  
L E U C A N T H E M U M.  
G R E A T D A I S Y.

Plate 7. Fig. 2.

This is a biennial Plant ; an ornament of our pasture grounds, as the other of our corn fields, in Autumn. It is no way related to the Little Daisy of our meadows, in character or virtues ; only in name.

It grows to two foot high, with few Branches.

The Leaves are of a deep, dead green, and smooth.

The Flowers are vast, and of a milky white.

They





Character Genericus

*Chrysanthemum*  
*Segetum.*  
Corn Marygold.

*Chrysanthemum*  
*Leucanthemum.*  
Great Daisy.

2





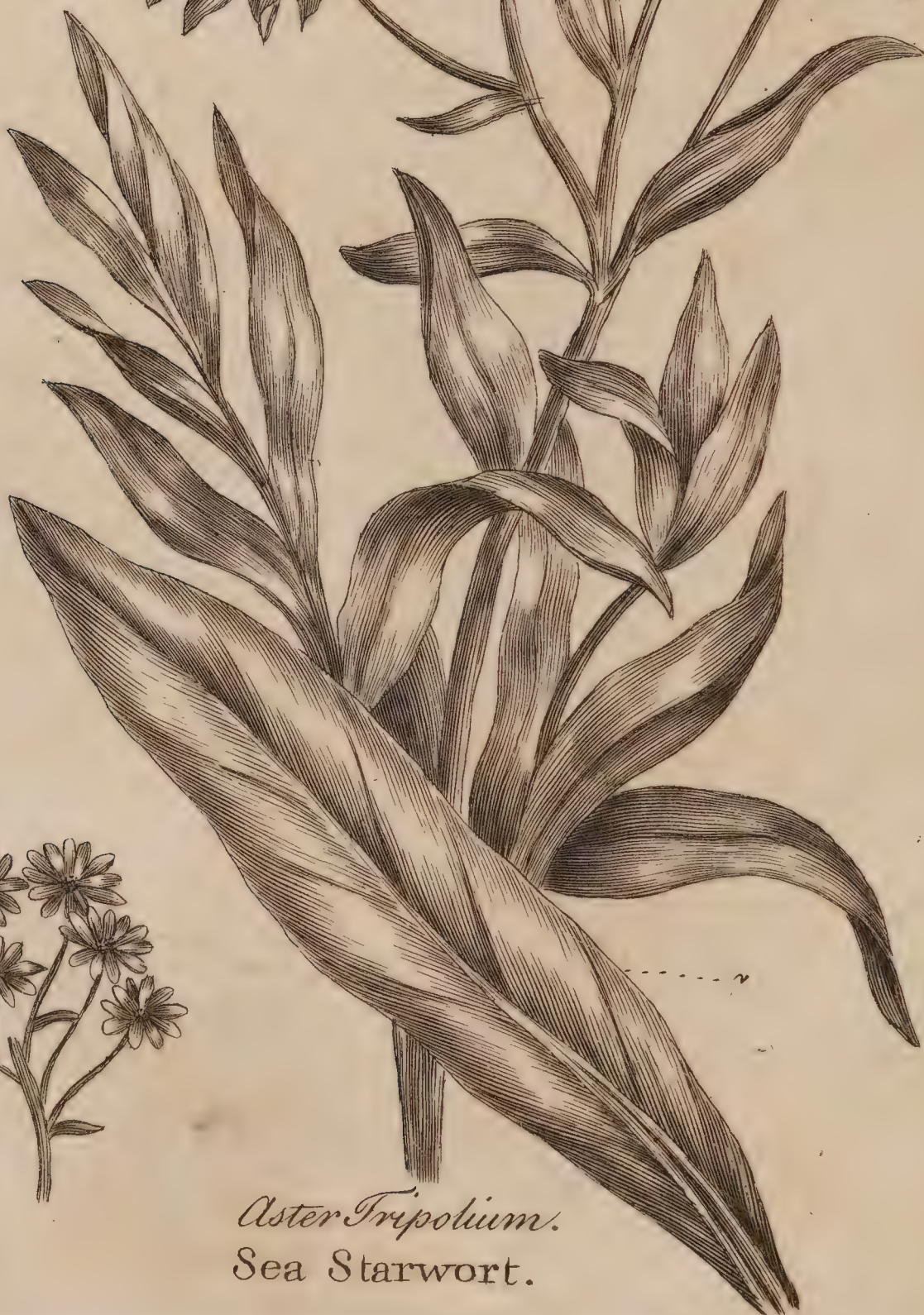




ASTER



Character  
Genericus



*Aster Tripolium.*  
Sea Starwort.



They blow in August.

The taste of this Plant is sharp and acrid : and it has no smell. Its virtues have not been enough enquired into,

It is a sharp and pungent diuretic ; cleansing the kidneys : but many and careful trials should be made of it before 'tis freely used. An infusion contains all its virtue ; and has the heat of Cardamoms, or Cubebs. Any boiling weakens it.

### III.

#### A S T E R.

#### S T A R W O R T.

The Cup is conic ; the Scales of it are leafy ; and their points stand out.

#### A S T E R T R I P O L I U M.

#### S E A S T A R W O R T.

Plate 8.

The Leaves are narrow ; and the Flowers are many.

Multitudinous

Multitudinous as the kinds of Aster are, with which the warmer parts of Europe, and, most of all, America, have filled our gardens ; this is the only one that graces our country wild.

It is a Perennial ; native of our damp grounds near the sea, and great rivers : a handsome Plant, of a Yard high.

The Stalk is ruddy, and branched.

The Leaves are smooth, and of a very fine green.

The Flowers are numerous, large, and blue.

They blow in August.

Of its virtues nothing is known.

#### IV.

### M A T R I C A R I A.

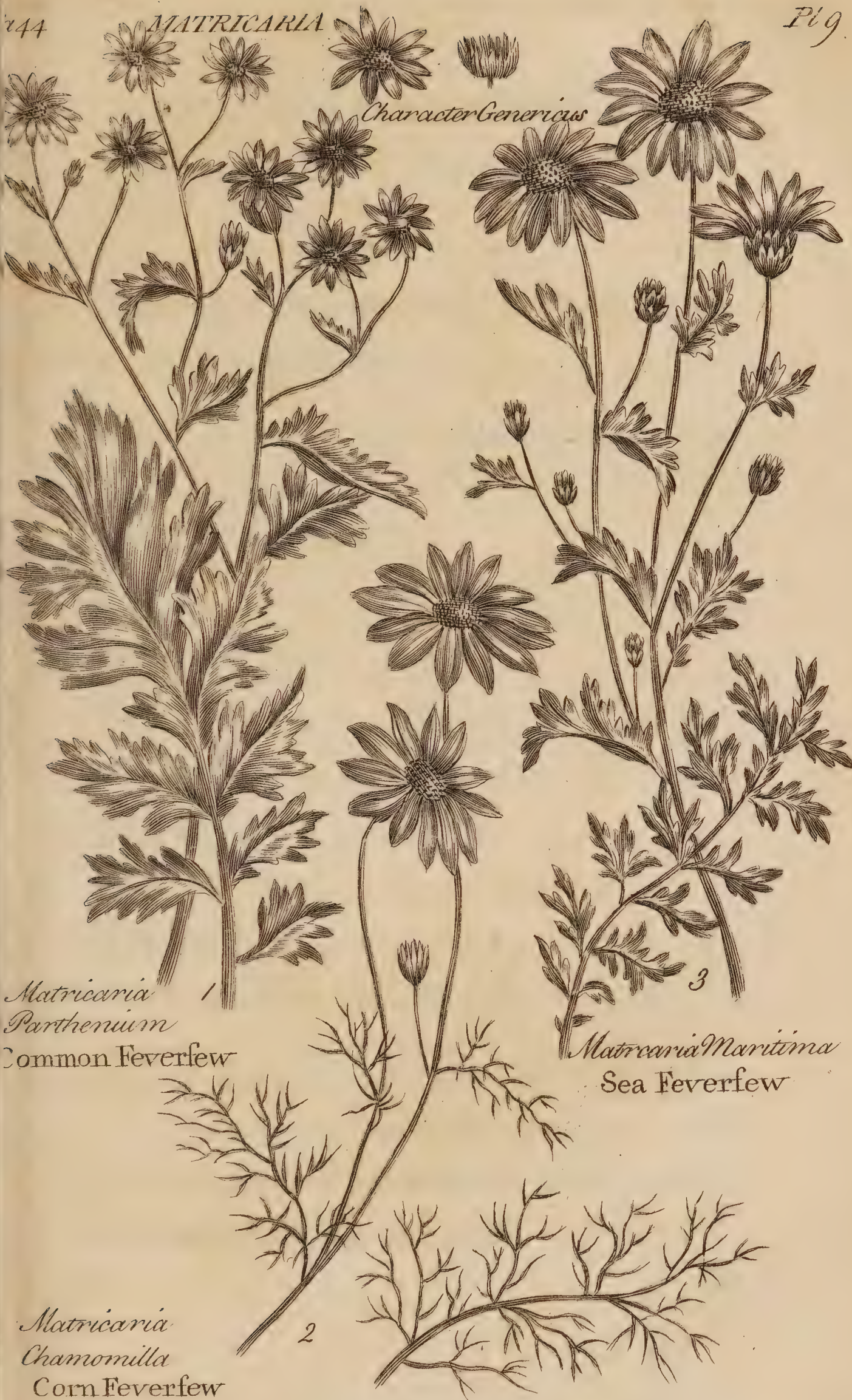
### F E V E R F E W.

The Cup is rounded : and its Scales are very numerous, and very narrow.

#### I. MATRICARIA



Character Genericus



*Matricaria*  
*Parthenium*  
Common Feverfew

*Matricaria Maritima*  
Sea Feverfew

*Matricaria*  
*Chamomilla*  
Corn Feverfew





1. MATRICARIA PARTHENIUM.  
COMMON FEVERFEW.

Plate 9. Fig. 1.

The Leaves are cut, down to the Stalk, in broad and flatted divisions.

This is a Weed of our waste grounds ; and is no where so frequent as about farm-houses ; a perennial, bushy Plant.

It grows to two Foot high, with a pale Stalk, and many Branches.

The Leaves are of a faded yellowish green.

The Flowers are very numerous, and white.

They blow in June.

The whole Plant has a strong and very particular smell, and a bitterish taste.

Provident Nature, which has placed this Herb every where at our doors, has doubtless given to it these striking qualities, to invite us to its use ; which is indeed very great.

In

In disorders arising from an obstruction of evacuations peculiar to the female sex, its virtues are beyond all praise ; and above all value.

Steel given on these occasions tears the constitution ; and, for a little present good, sometimes entails a lasting series of disorders. The chymical preparations of Steel are yet by many degrees more hurtful than its simple self ; but we have here an innocent Herb, incapable of harm, ready at hand, that will do all the good that can be expected from them ; without the possibility of mischief.

The fact is the same in a thousand other instances ; for our own Herbs are as full of virtue, as destitute of mischief : and I do, in Christian truth, believe, (tho' 'tis a very bold conclusion) that more good may be done in the world by Herbs ; than mischief by chymical preparations.

For the use of this Plant no medical art is  
needed :



needed : the Leaves are to be stripped off, and boiling water poured on them. A strong tea is to be thus made of Feverfew ; and it is to be drank by half-pint basins. Three in a day will be sufficient.

In the worst Head-Achs this Herb exceeds whatever else is known.

A lady of great worth and virtue, the mother of the late Sir William Bowyer, told me, that having in the younger part of her life a very terrible and almost constant Head-Ach, fixed in one small spot, and raging at all times almost to distraction ; and which the neighbouring Dr. Thorold, of Uxbridge, very eminent in his profession, had attempted in vain to remove ; she was at length cured by a maid-servant, with this Herb.

The lady drank the tea of it plentifully ; and applied the warm leaves, of which the tea had been made, to the part. The complaint ceased ; and never returned.

The

The frequency of Head-Achs, and the Relief obtained by many from this Herb, since the first publication of these Sheets; have brought before the Author a number of Cases, in persons of all ranks, from the very highest to the poor; in some of which candour obliges him to say, the advantage was but temporary; the pain, after a few days, returning. These were mostly Cases where a thickness of Blood, and long obstructed vessels, threatened worse consequences; Palsies, or Apoplexies: but these also may be cured by a volatile Spirit from the Herb, distilled with Sal Armoniac. The Reader will accept the following instance.

A gentleman about Fifty, a person of honour, and not hasty in forming his opinions, gives the account.

He took a Tea of Feverfew for a vehement Head-Ach; which it always alleviated; and sometimes, for a few days, removed: but the complaint still returned upon him.

It



It was a settled heaviness, and dull pain; with frequent shootings, that cut like knives: attended with giddiness, dimness of sight, and a disturbed imagination. He applied to the Author, who distilled such a volatile Spirit from the same Herb, which has perfectly cured him. This gentleman is otherwise healthy, excepting for the Gout; and tho' he cannot say how far this Medicine may have assisted, yet it is certain he has been, since the taking it, much stronger on his feet, than of some time before.

## 2. MATRICARIA CHAMOMILLA.

### CORN FEVERFEW.

Plate 9. Fig. 2.

The Leaves are cut into many parts, as fine as threads.

This is an annual Weed, hateful to farmers: but it has its virtues.

N° I.

D

It

It grows to a Foot and half high.

The Stalk is slender, pale, and branchy.

The Leaves have no smell.

The Flowers are large, and white.

They blow in July.

These have the virtues of those of Chamomile; but with more cordial warmth.

### 3. MATRICARIA MARITIMA.

#### SEA FEVERFEW.

The Leaves swell up, and are thick; and they are composed of many parts, which are again cut down to the rib.

This is a sea-side, perennial Plant, frequent in Cornwall.

It grows to eight Inches high, upright, and branchy.

The



The Stalk is thick, and ruddy.

The Leaves are of a dull green ; hollow underneath, and rising on the upper side.

The Flowers are white, with a low yellow disk.

They blow in August.

Its virtues are not known.

THE candid Reader has here laid before him, the Specimen of a Method, by which it is proposed, to learn; to ascertain; and then to make public, The Virtues of the Plants of Britain.

Where nothing is known, nothing is ascribed to them : where many things have been said, such alone are mentioned here as have been proved by experience : where there is a probability of virtue, the herb is proposed for trial ; and reasons are given for that opinion : and where danger threatens ; that is also mentioned.

Upon this plan, tho' the observations of man are requisite ; the means of them are rendered

easy : and the cause truly deserves them. There are in England, on a free conjecture, fifteen hundred Plants which promise, by their taste and smell, considerable virtues : of these more than a thousand yet remain to be tried : And every advance is something to the general good ; so it be made with accuracy.

The first thing, to this purpose, must be to know, and make known perfectly the Plant itself, to others : and in the method here employed 'tis hoped that is not difficult. The general heads of the characters ; and the descriptions of the parts, are plain at least ; and obvious : and the superadded distinctions, which mark the gradations next under them, 'tis hoped are evident. Those which distinguish kind from kind, and Plant from Plant in the same kind, are easier yet, and cannot be mistaken : and herein lies the reality of knowledge.

Every one knows what a radiated Flower is ; for every one has seen a Sun-flower, or a Mary-gold :



gold : when therefore he sees such a Flower, whose Cup has only one row of Scales, he finds here, that only two kinds of English Plants have that character ; and looking to the next distinction, he sees, that if those Scales are flat, the Plant is Coltsfoot ; if they be hollowed, it is Bidens. This is short and easy : more is not needful ; and the Plant can never be mistaken.

Thus he will be led to know every Herb he finds ; by referring it to its characters ; those whose virtues are unknown, as well as those we are better acquainted with ; for all are here : and all are necessary to be known ; not only for distinction from each other ; but since all may have virtues.

There is a plain necessity also for knowing all the Plants of the same name or kind with that in use ; because the greatest errors may be fallen into by using one of those kinds for another.

Nightshade, for instance, is a name of many Plants ; all of one general kind ; but of most different virtues. There is one whose proper dose is two ounces ; another that can make great alterations in the body by a quarter of a grain : and one whose roots, and several whose fruits, are eaten at table. Therefore he who should say, give Nightshade in such a case, would prescribe under a dangerous name ; till all these were known asunder.

Hence also appears their folly (for it deserves no better name) who would advise men to seek the virtues of Herbs merely by their forms, or characters.

We see in this small specimen, that, among radiated Plants, one is stomachic, another pectoral, a third a powerful diuretic ; and so on : yet are no Plants more naturally or justly joined in character, than those with radiated Flowers. And even, beside all this variety of virtues in these ; the Doronicum and some others of this  
kind,



kind, are poisonous. It is experience, not the forms of Plants, must lead us to the truth : but that, unless we are accurate, is useless.

The Author of these carefully considered Pages hopes, by their means, to make such accuracy easy, and familiar. God has given him many blessings : the Public are the means thro' which he has received them ; and this is the return which piety and gratitude demand. For once the motive will not be mistaken ; for those who see the nature and price of the present Publication, will not suppose 'tis dictated by interest.

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96 56  
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Of the PILES by YARROW.

An Account of the eminent Virtues of BUTTERBURR in  
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And of the Excellence of Flowers of TANZY for the Cure of WORMS.  
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private Families; and to the Charitable, who would help their Neighbours.

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## N U M B E R    I I .

To be continued Occasionally, as new Virtues are discovered in P L A N T S;  
or neglected, or doubtful ones ascertained by Experience.

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By J O H N H I L L, M. D.  
M E M B E R of the I M P E R I A L A C A D E M Y.

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L O N D O N :

Printed for R. BALDWIN, in Pater-noster-Row; J. RIDLEY, in St. James's-  
Street; J. NOURSE, T. BECKET, P. ELMSLY, J. CAMPBELL, and  
J. BELL, in the Strand.

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V I R T U E S  
O F  
B R I T I S H H E R B S.

---

I. MATRICARIA SUAVEOLENS.

SWEET FEVERFEW.

**T**HE disk or center of the Flower rises high, and its Rays turn back.

This is an Annual, a Weed in the corn fields of Suffex, and other places where the ground is light and sandy : it grows to twelve or fourteen inches high, sometimes to two foot, with an upright Stem, and many Branches.

N<sup>o</sup> II.

B

The

The Stalk is fuddy, firm and hard.

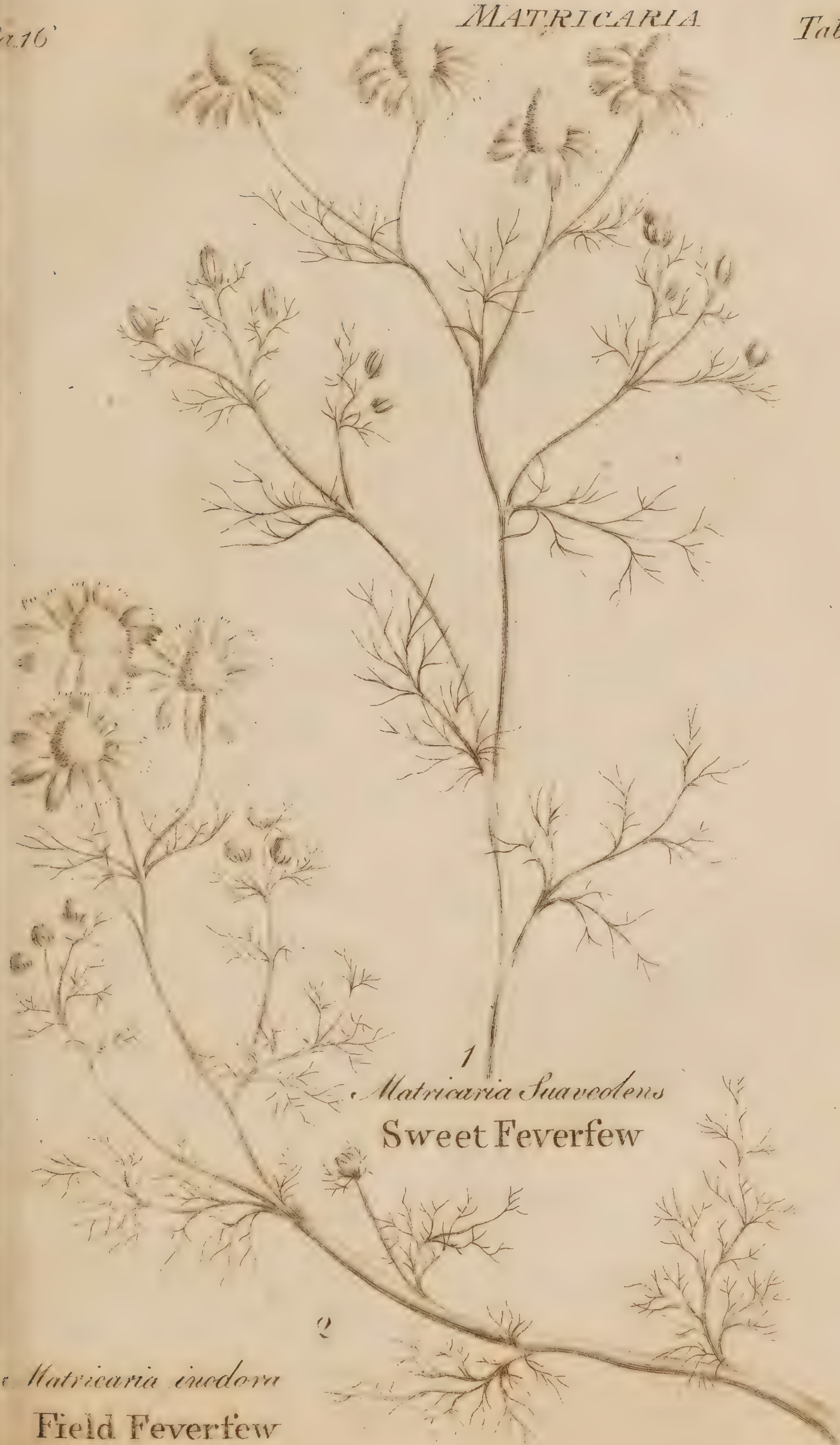
The Leaves are cut into divisions as fine as threads, and are of a dusky green colour.

The Flowers are very numerous, large, and white; only the disk, or central part is yellow.

They blow in June.

The Flowers of this Plant have a remarkably agreeable bitterness; and they possess the virtues such a taste declares: they are stomatic in a very high degree: I had a singular and striking instance of it some years ago. The late Duchess of Richmond, most excellent of women, most charitable and most beneficent; through whose means I have done, I hope, some good in Suffex; desired me, when once at Goodwood, to visit a farmer's wife in the neighbourhood who was perishing from mere want of nourishment. An aversion to all food had possessed her for many months, not to be accounted for by any means; or equalled by all that has been written in medicine. It was scarce possible to get her to taste any thing whatever;





1  
*Matricaria suaveolens*  
Sweet Feverfew

2  
*Matricaria inodora*  
Field Feverfew





and a few minutes after the least morsel was down, she always threw it up again.

I found her in the use of a Tea made from this Plant; and as her friends thought it promised good, I recommended the continuance of it. The Tea was made only from the yellow disks of the Flowers clipped into boiling water. A Clergyman in the neighbourhood had taught her the method, and shewed her the Plant. The infusion was the most grateful bitter that could be tasted. Her stomach, that abhorred Gentian, and the like, bore this: and by a constant perseverance in its use she was cured.

In country families are found many instances of such peculiar virtues, in particular Species of Plants; he will be very useful who shall assist in collecting them together, and making them generally known.

## 2. MATRICARIA INODORA.

### FIELD FEVERFEW.

The disk of the Flower is broad and low ; and its rays spread out flat.

This is an Annual : a Weed on our dry ploughed grounds and ditch banks : it grows to half a yard high ; in a wild straggling manner.

The Stalk leans in part upon the ground, and spreads toward the top into several Branches : its colour is a dark, and coarse green, often stained with red.

The Leaves are of a deep and dusky green ; and when bruised, they have a raw unpleasant smell.

The Flowers are large, and of a milky white, with an orange-coloured disk.

They blow in August and September.

The great use of this Herb is external. The whole Plant with its Flowers beaten, and made  
into



into a poultice, with some bread and milk and a little oil, softens and disposes to maturation. It is emollient, and at the same time warm; which is for this purpose an uncommon but a happy mixture of qualities. I have seen it used with great success, and wish the Surgeons would attend to it: there is nothing they want more.

## V.

## A C H I L L Æ A.

## Y A R R O W.

The Cup is egg-shaped: and its scales are oval, and turn in at the points.

## 1. ACHILLÆA MILLEFOLIUM.

## COMMON YARROW.

The Leaves are cut into a multitude of fine small parts.

This is an upright, and not unhandsome Plant, common in our pasture grounds; and, like many others, of much more use and value than is generally known. It is a Perennial, and grows to two foot high.

The Stalk is upright, covered with Leaves, but destitute of Branches. Its colour is a dull, and somewhat greyish green.

The Leaves are of a dead green colour, and of a tough substance.

The Flowers are usually white; but 'tis a common, and very pretty variety to see them of a delicate crimson: and 'tis worth knowing, that the Flowers of this colour produce Seeds which will always raise red-flowered Plants.

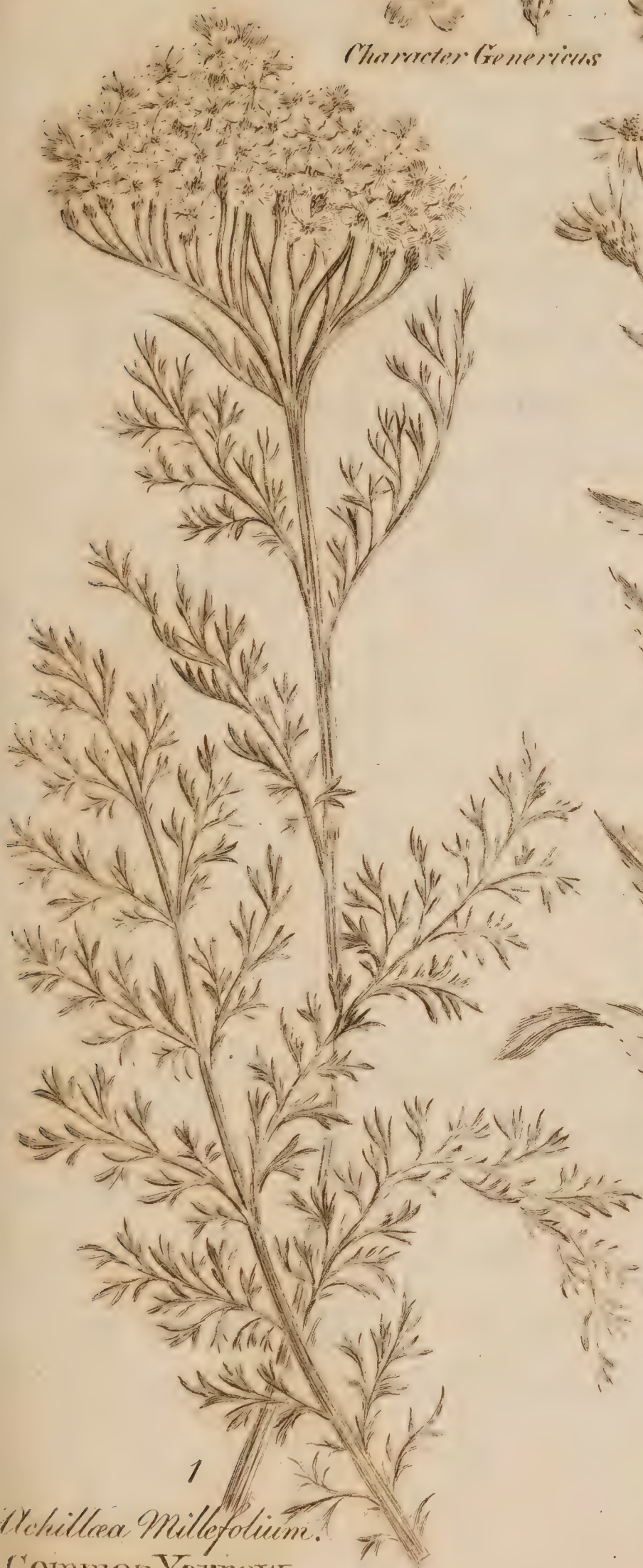
They blow in July and August.

Lord E—— first told me, that Horses loved the young Leaves of this Herb; and that it might be used to increase the quantity of food in dry pastures that yield naturally but little grass.

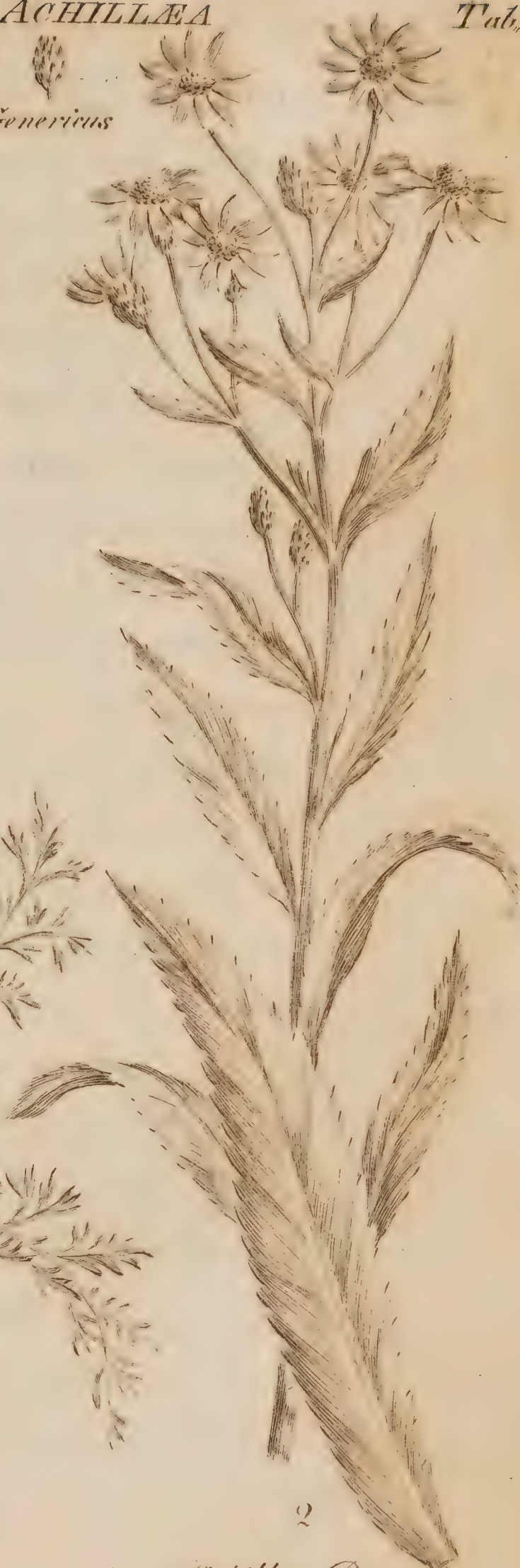
Some Writers of great name have taken pains to tell us what Plants Cattle will not eat:  
they



Character Genericus



*Achillea Millefolium.*  
Common Yarrow.



*Achillea Ptarmica.*  
Sneezewort





they judge of this by looking at what are left in grounds where they feed ; and all such they direct to be rooted up. We have in this an instance, that more care is needful than men commonly will take, to shew what is and what is not valuable. Yarrow is a Plant left standing always in fed pastures ; for Cattle will not eat its hard dry Stalk ; nor have the Leaves any great value after this rises ; but Yarrow still is useful. I sowed some in a barren patch of grass ground ; and all the while the Leaves were tender, the Cows and Horses eat them heartily ; and it proved wholesome, and doubled the natural produce. On cutting down the Stalks as they rose, it still kept in leaf and freshness ; growing as it was eaten.

As a Medicine, Yarrow always has been eminent : it alleviates pain, and restrains violent bleedings. The Piles are a most frequent and most troublesome illness : and they will sometimes be distractingly painful ; and bleed too much. In this case Yarrow scarcely has its equal. A strong

Tea should be made of the Leaves, and drank plentifully; and equal parts of this Herb, and of Toadflax, should be made into a poultice with pomatum, and laid on outwardly. Sleep follows, and the pain grows easy, and the bleeding lessens.

There is an ancient superstition of Yarrow curing Tertian Agues; but too idle to be much regarded. A Leaf of it is to be pulled off with the left hand, pronouncing at the same time the sick man's name; and this Leaf is to be taken. The same thing has been said of Feverfew; for in old times names of Plants, as well as now, were too much confounded. The Feverfew seems fittest for the purpose; but doubtless it will do as well without the superstition.

## 2. ACHILLÆA PTARMICA.

### SNEEZEWORT.

The Leaves are long and narrow, and beautifully dented at the edges.

This



This is a pretty Plant, a Perennial, native of our moist grounds, but not common.

It grows to two foot high, in a regular manner, with many upright Stalks of a pale green, and not much branched.

The Leaves are of a lively green ; and there is a neatness in the indentings round the edge that is very pleasing.

The Flowers are white, with a greyish disk.

They blow from July to November.

Culture renders them double ; and they are then a very handsome ornament in our gardens.

This is an acrid sharp Plant ; it brings water into the mouth ; and snuffed up causes sneezing, and that to the bleeding of the nose. It is not one of those I would wish should be of common use.





The Flowers are of a gold yellow, and numerous though small.

They blow in August.

It is a balsamic vulnerary Herb, long famous against inward hurts and bruises: but it has greater and more certain virtues.

It is an excellent and safe Diuretic; few things exceed it in the Gravel; and when there are small stones so lodged as to cause heat and soreness, which are too often followed with bloody or purulent urine; then 'tis this Herb shews all its excellence.

Its balsamic healing virtues co-operate with its diuretic quality; and the parts are at the same time cleansed and healed.

No preparation is better than a Tea of the Herb for this service; and the young Leaves have the most virtue.

## 2. SOLIDAGO ANGUSTIFOLIA;

## NARROW - LEAVED GOLDEN ROD.

This is a very pretty Plant, native of Ireland, a Perennial, that makes a handsome figure on their rocky hills. It grows to a foot and half high, and has few or no Branches.

The Stalk is weak, tender, and of a dead green, tinged with a ruddy brown.

The Leaves are of a bright and glossy green, smooth, and lightly dented at the edges.

The Flowers are of a pale yellow, and stand in a loose pretty Spike.

They blow in July.

It resembles the preceding in virtues as in form.



### 3. SOLIDAGO CAMBRICA.

#### WELCH GOLDEN ROD.

The Flowers stand at the top in a round cluster.

This is an humble, but a pretty Plant, a Perennial, native of the Welch mountains : a favoured food of Goats.

The Stalk is simple, upright, brown, and six inches high.

The Leaves are oblong, narrow, pale, and a little downy.

The Flowers are numerous, and of a gold yellow.

They blow in August and September.

The taste seems to shew virtues the same with those of the first kind, but in a much inferior degree.

## VII.

## ERIGERON.

## SIMSON.

The Cup is cylindric : and its Scales are awl-shaped, and placed erect. The rays of the Flower are narrow.

## I. ERIGERON ACRE.

## BLUE SIMSON.

The Flowers stand separate, one above another, alternately.

This is a Perennial, native of our high dry grounds, a strange Plant that appears twice in the year, and wears two different faces.

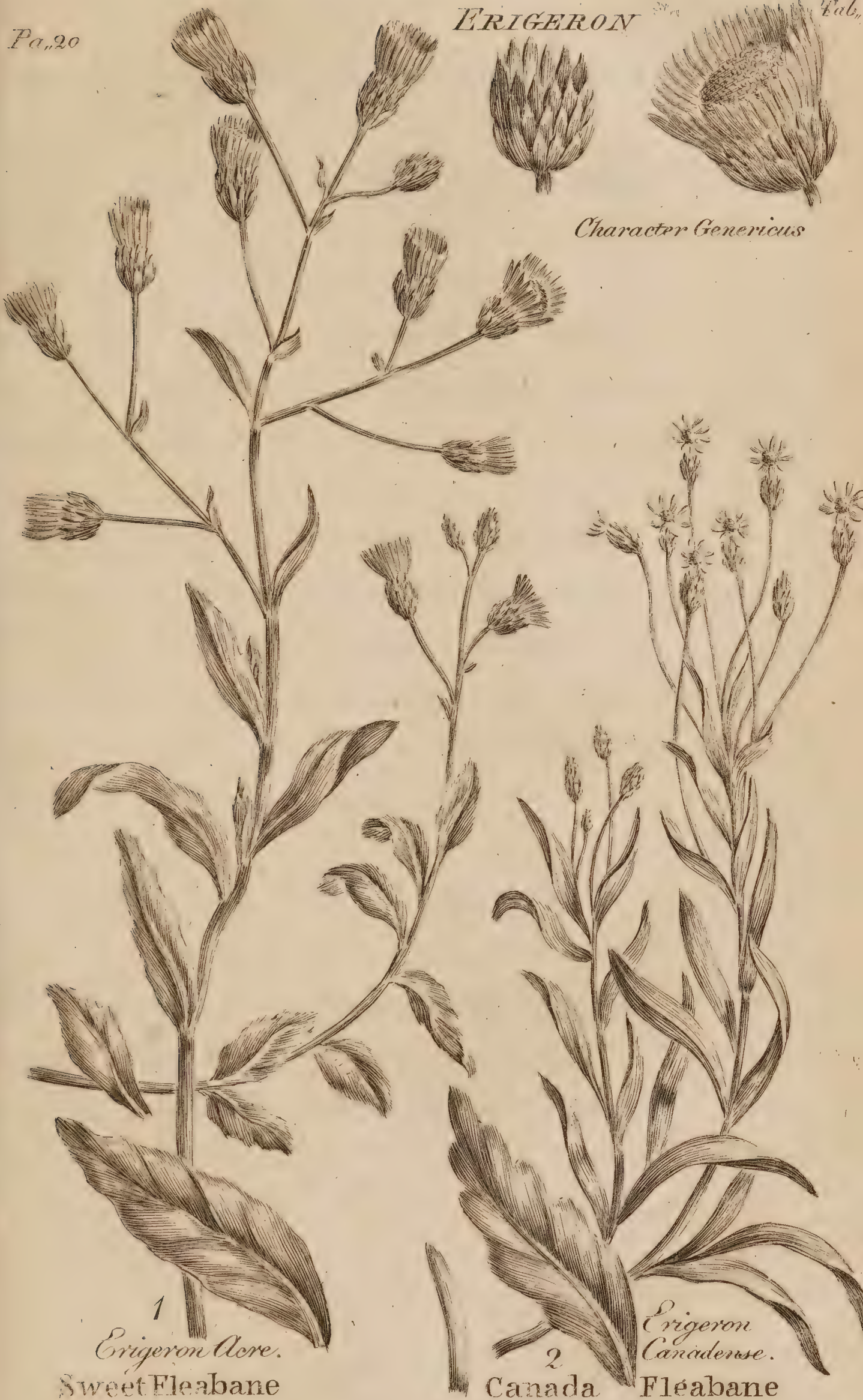
In April we see it weak, lying on the ground, and scarce six inches high : in August and September it flowers a second time, and is then robust,



ERIGERON

Fab.

Character Genericus



1  
*Erigeron Acre.*  
Sweet Fleabane

2  
*Erigeron Canadense.*  
Canada Fleabane





bust, upright, about ten inches high, and carries larger Flowers.

The Leaves are of a dull dead green, soft to the touch.

The Stalk is ruddy, firm and dry.

The Flowers are of a purplish blue : they never spread wide open ; but the Rays always stand upright.

It is a sharp and acrid Plant. We have the testimony of Haller, that they give it in some parts of Germany in disorders of the breast, where the complaint arises from a tough phlegm. But it appears to me one of those things that should be used with caution.

## 2. C A N A D A S I M S O N.

### ERIGERON CANADENSE.

The Flowers are clustered in great numbers at the top of the Stalks.

This

This is an Annual, that grows on our dry banks, and among rubbish: sometimes we find it not six inches high, sometimes two foot or more.

The Stalk is of a dusky green tinged with brown.

The Leaves are various; the lower of some breadth, and rudely dented; the upper narrow and undivided; all of a dead green.

The Flowers are white, of no beauty.

They blow in August and September.



# HERBS

Which have a radiated Flower, growing in a Cup that is fringed, or furrounded with short Leaves at the bottom.

## I.

SENECIO.

GROUNDSELL.

The Scales of the Cup are withered at their tops.

I. SENECIO JACOBÆA.

COMMON RAGWORT.

The Leaves seem cut, or rather gnawn, to rags.

This is a Weed too frequent in our pastures, covering a great deal of ground to ill purpose,

Nº II.

C

for

for no Cattle touch it. It is an Annual; leafy, branchy, and of a coarse ill aspect.

The Stalk is two foot high, firm, upright, thick, and of a coarse green, often stained with brown or red.

The Leaves are of a dark coarse green, and smooth; and of an unpleasant smell.

The Flowers are numerous and yellow.

They blow in June, July and August.

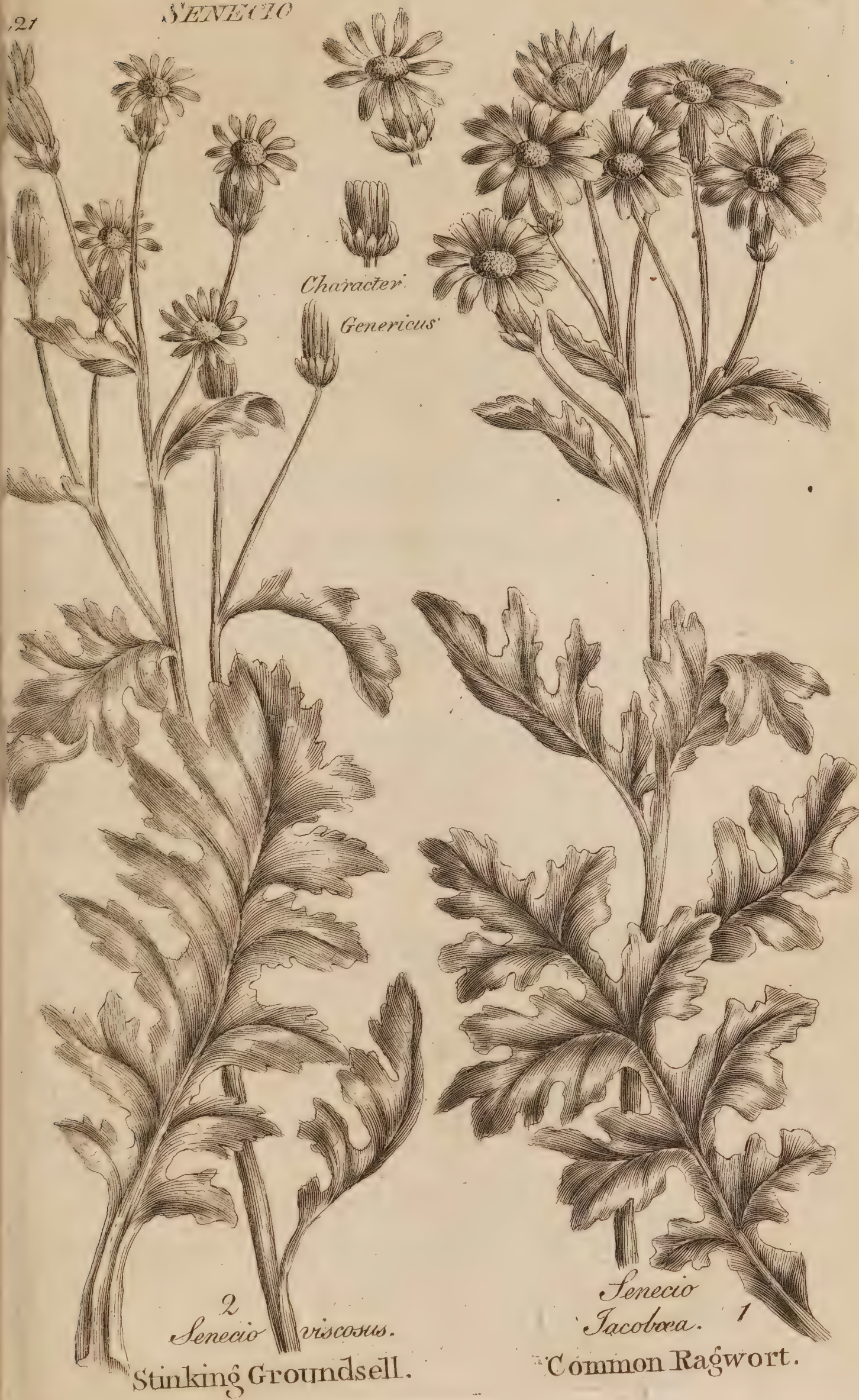
The taste of the Leaves is a disagreeable bitter, with a mixture of sharpness. It is said they are good against the Dysentery\*; and the juice is directed to be taken. Externally, they have been praised with reason against Swellings, and in Inflammations. They are to be boiled to softness, and applied as a warm poultice, with bread and oil.

\* S. Pauli,



SENECIO

27



2  
*Senecio viscosus.*  
Stinking Groundsell.

*Senecio Jacobaea.* 1  
Common Ragwort.





## 2. SENECIO VISCOSUS.

## 2. COTTON GROUNDSELL.

The Leaves are thick, and clammy to the touch.

This is an offensive fulsome Weed upon our dry ditch banks; an Annual, of straggling and irregular growth.

The Stalk is two foot high, soft, tender, and of a pale green.

The Leaves are of a faint green, thick, downy, and soft: they stick to the hands; and smell so rankly that the common people call it Stinking Groundsell.

The Flowers are numerous, small, and of a faint yellow.

They blow in July, and till the end of summer.

This has been praised in fluxes of the belly, and I believe with reason; for in the use of it

on other occasions, I have found that it has the emetic power of Ipecacuanha ; but in a less degree, and not so agreeable manner. The use I have made of it is against hysteric complaints; and it has proved a good, tho' most unpleasant medicine.

### 3. SENECIO SYLVATICUS.

#### MOUNTAIN GROUNDSELL.

The Leaves are smooth ; and the Rays of the Flower turn back.

This is a tall and robust Plant, common on our ditch banks, and in other waste dry places : an Annual.

The Stalk grows to a yard high, and is of a dull green tinged with brown.

The Leaves are of a faint green, and firm to the touch.

The Flowers are numerous, and of a fine light yellow.

They blow in July and August.

The



The people in Lincolnshire use this externally against pains and swellings; and, as they affirm, with great success.

#### 4. SENECIO AQUATICUS.

#### WATER GROUNDSELL.

The Root Leaves are broad, with a few jags at the base; those on the Stalks are deeply divided down almost to the rib.

This is a Water Plant, common enough at ditch sides, and in places where the wet stands in winter; a Perennial of handsome growth.

The Stalk is two foot high, and spreads out wide Branches.

The Leaves are of a lively green, stained sometimes with red; and they are smooth and glossy.

The Flowers are of a beautiful bright yellow.

There is an acrid sharpness in this Plant, that

speaks against its use; though otherwise 'tis like the others of its kind.

## 5. SENEIO SARRACENICUS.

### SARRACENS CONSOUND.

The Leaves are oblong, broad, and ferrated.

This is a robust conspicuous Plant, common in the meadows of Yorkshire and of Wiltshire; elsewhere scarce; a Perennial that propagates abundantly by its spreading Roots.

The Stalk is four foot high, green, tough, and spreading at the top.

The Leaves are of a fine fresh green, smooth, bright, and glossy.

The Flowers are small and yellow.

Wonders are related of the virtues of this Herb against hurts and bruises. It is the great ingredient of the Swiss Arquebusade Water. It is balsamic and diuretic.

Many





1  
*Senecio*  
*Sylvaticus.*

Mountain  
Groundsell.

3  
*Senecio*  
*Saracenicus.*

Saracens Consounds.

2  
*Senecio Aquaticus.*  
Water Ragwort.







Many receipts have been spoken of for the making this famous Water; and great secrets are made of them. The best I have seen is that which follows: I obtained it, by purchase, from a person of veracity and knowledge; and am happy in this opportunity of giving it to the Public; because every one who has an Alembic, may make it with the greatest ease.

Take Leaves of Angelica half a pound, Bugle, Scabious, Comfry, Spear-mint, Roman Worm-wood, of each six ounces; Germander, Rue, Speedwell, and Common Daisy, each a quarter of a pound; roots of Butterburr, and Tops of St. John's Wort, of each three ounces; Leaves of Saracens Confound, ten ounces: gather these fresh and hang them up three days in an airy place; then clip them small, and put them into the still, with two gallons of Molasses Spirit; let them stand two days, then add three gallons of water, distill off one gallon and a half; add to it one gallon of spring water, and half a pound of the finest sugar. Let it stand four days, and then

filter it through paper, and put it up for use.

## 6. SENECIO ERUCÆFOLIUS.

### HOARY GROUNDSELL.

The Leaves are hoary; and the Rays of the Flower spread flat.

This is a woodside Plant; a Perennial that loves shade, and flourishes best where there is a little moisture.

The Stalk is upright, and a yard high, of a pale green, and furnished with many Branches.

The Leaves are of a pale green, and somewhat hoary.

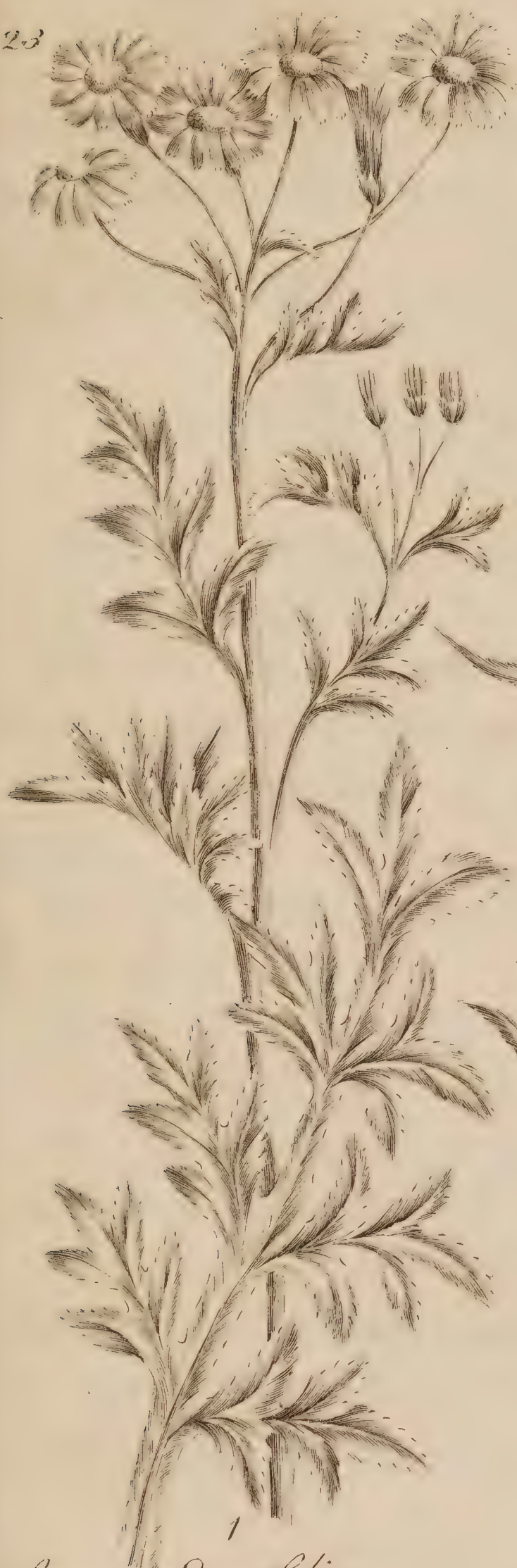
The Flowers are large, handsome, and of a light yellow.

They blow in July and August.

Its virtues seem the same with those of the others of its kind; for the taste, smell, and all its sensible qualities resemble them: and 'tis said  
that



No 23



1

*Senecio Erucaefolius*  
Hoary Groundsell



2

*Senecio paludosus*  
Marsh Fleabane  
or Bird's tongue





that a strong infusion of it is an excellent Gargle in a fore throat; spitting it out.

## 7. SENECIO PALUDOSUS.

### MARSH GROUNDSELL.

The Leaves are long, narrow, delicately serrated, and downy underneath.

This is a very handsome Plant found in our marshes, upon rotten boggy ground, and almost in water; a Perennial, of upright regular growth.

The Stalk is brown, firm, near a yard high, and has few or no branches.

The Leaves are beautifully serrated, and are of a bright light green above, and hoary below.

The Flowers are of a very fine bright yellow.

They blow in August.

In the isle of Ely, where this Plant is common, they boil the Leaves in Hog's Lard, and make of them an ointment, which does good in  
the

Sciatica. The virtues are very much spoken of, and the thing is easy to be made : the Leaves are to be fresh gathered, and chopped small, they are then to be put into as much Lard as will melt easily with them ; and when they are boiled till they are crisp, the Lard is to be pressed off, and when cold, put by for use.

---

## H E R B S

Which have a tubulated Flower, growing in a Cup consisting of only one row of Scales.

If we pull off the Rays from any of the preceding Flowers, we shall see what is to be called a tubulated Flower. Those consist of a disk or central part surrounded with Rays : these of the central part only.

### I. B I D E N S



I.

B I D E N S.

HEMP AGRIMONY.

The Cup is broad and cylindric, and its Scales are hollow.

The Reader will remember the term Bidens ; we had it in the former number at page 15. But there are plants of this name which have no Rays to their Flower ; and every herb must stand in its place here. There is no way else of knowing them distinctly.

1. BIDENS TRIPARTITA.

TRIFID HEMP AGRIMONY.

The Leaves are cut into three parts.

This

This is a coarse ill growing water Plant, branchy and robust; an Annual of no beauty.

The Stalk is brown, upright, thick, and near a yard high.

The Leaves are of a dusky brownish green.

The Flowers are yellow, and they blow in August.

The seeds are oblong and light, and have three points, by which they stick to the cloaths of those who pass hastily by them. They stuck to Mr. Baker, the premier Philosopher of the Royal Society; and they will long stick to his name and theirs: he thought them living creatures, and they were described and figured as such in the Philosophical Transactions, under the name of Unknown Animals.

The Leaves of this Plant have the singular smell and taste of the radiated Bidens of Ireland; but in a greater degree. 'Tis probable its qualities are of the same kind: but 'tis that plant, not this, should be first tried in cases of the gravel.



## Character Genericus







2. B I D E N S C E R N U A.

UNDIVIDED HEMP AGRIMONY.

The Leaves are lanced and dented, and they grow together at the base.

This is an Annual, native of our ditches and wet grounds; a bushy, coarse, robust Plant.

The Stalk is two foot and a half high, of a deep green, tinged with a ruddy brown, and full of branches.

The Leaves are of a strong shining green, and smooth; but towards Autumn they commonly get a ruddy brown hue also.

The Flowers are of a dull unpleasing yellow; they hang down; but the seeds which follow them, rise upright.

They blow in August, and the seed ripens in September.

The

The taste and smell declare the same qualities in this, as the preceding, but it is still less to be recommended for trial, than the Irish kind.

### 3. B I D E N S   M I N I M A.

#### D W A R F   H E M P   A G R I M O N Y.

The Leaves are lanced and undivided at the edges; and they stand free of one another at the base.

This is a little Annual, native of our damp places, and where water has stood in winter; a plant of no beauty; easily overlooked, and that has been overlooked, even by great writers.

The Stalk is simple, upright, without any branches, and grows but to five or six inches high. Its colour is a reddish brown.

The Leaves are of a pale green, and waved at the edges.

The Flowers are yellow, and they stand upright, not droop as the others.

They blow in August.

Linnaeus



Linnæus did not allow the existence of this plant as a distinct Species, in the former editions of his Species Plantarum: I had some reasoning with his Pupils here about it: but he is open to conviction; and in the new edition of that valuable book, he has allowed it a place, as I had done in the Vegetable System.

This has scarce any thing of the peculiar smell and taste of the others.

## II.

### PETASITES.

### BUTTERBURR.

The Cup is oval, and its Scales are flat.

#### 1. PET A-

## I. PETASITES OVATUS.

## COMMON BUTTERBURR.

The head of flowers is oval and compact.

This is a perennial spreading plant, common in wet grounds and low meadows, and has the strange property of sending up its flowers at a different season from its leaves; very long before them. Many an eye is familiar with its vast leaves that never knew the ruddy tuft of flowers belong to the same plant.

The Flower-stalk appears early, and grows to eight inches high, thick, tender, juicy, and hung about with a multitude of skinny films, of a pale flesh colour.

The Leaves come afterwards, and grow to a vast size; they are roundish, of a pale green, with thick white veins, and often are a foot and a half in diameter.

The



*PETASITES*

*Character Genericus*



*Petasites*  
common

1  
*ovatus*  
Butterbur

2

*Petasites*  
Tall  
*elation*  
Butterbur





The Flowers are of a pale flesh colour.

They blow in April, and fade before the Leaves get of any great size.

The Root is whitish, thick, tender, juicy, and spreads about under the surface to a great extent. 'Tis one of those innumerable instances that the Providence of God, ever attentive to the good of man, has placed those things about us in great plenty, that can be of great use.

This is an admirable medicine in fevers of the worst kind; and taken early it prevents the mischiefs that often rise naturally in the disease; and oftener from the errors of physicians. We may remember that in a fever which raged near twenty years ago, and proved very fatal, the physician usually asked at his first visit, if the patient had been blooded; and if he was answered Yes, he told the relations there was little hope. Bleeding indeed was fatal in these cases; and I am afraid the medicines usually given in the first attacks of all fevers, were not less fatal. The

N<sup>o</sup> II.

D

disease

disease was of the putrid kind : the same fever raged at the same time in Germany ; and while we died by bleeding, and by chemical medicines, they lived by Butterburr. We are threatened with a heavier visitation now ; our crimes call it from Heaven ; the Almighty pardon us ! and preserve us from it ! but if that greatest of all calamities should come, there are few things from which we may expect so great relief, as from this herb. 'Tis no new thought, or hasty observation. The old Greeks used it with the greatest success ; and the very name of the plant among the Germans, is Pestilence Wort.

Whether for this, or for a less calamity ; for putrid fevers, or for what is called the sore-throat, with ulcers, which is indeed only one symptom of a putrid fever, however otherwise it has been spoken of ; the method of using the Root of Butterburr, is this.

Lay open the earth about the root, and it will be found to consist of an oval body, sending out  
long



long, thick fibres : throw away the fibres, and cut the oval body of the root through, to see if it be sound. 'Tis of a whitish colour, of a pleasant, fragrant, spicy smell, and a warm aromatic bitter taste, soft and tender to the touch, and juicy.

Wash off the dirt from this ; and slice thin two ounces of it : set on some soft water to boil, put the roots into a new earthen pipkin, and pour upon them a quart of the water, boiling hot ; let it stand till it is quite cold, no longer ; then pour it clear off ; add a quarter of a pint of mountain wine, and a little fine sugar ; and let about a quarter of a pint of this be taken once in four hours : the spirits will be raised ; the horrid anguish that attends these fevers, and announces their danger, will be removed ; a kindly gentle sweat, not violent, will follow ; every bad symptom will disappear ; and the patient will recover.

If in the worst of cases a boil should appear under the arms, or elsewhere, be assured that on

its coming to ripeness, depends the hope of life; and to promote that, use the same root externally. Make a common poultice of bread and milk, and to half a pint basin of this, add a quarter of a pound of Butterburr root, bruised, but not boiled; add also a little fallad oil, and apply this: keep it warm by many doubled cloths, and renew it often. The patient will thus have all the chance of life, the nature of the case admits. Will you have more authority? receive it; for confidence in truth is half a cure. Dioscorides, the Father of Botanic Medicine, commends it plainly enough for this use: and we should probably have read with him its praises also internally, if all stood right in the copies; but to our irreparable injury, that confusion of names which I have laboured so much here to teach men to avoid; took place so early. This, and Colocasia, an herb as different, as difference there could be, excepting only in the form and outline of the leaf, were confounded in one name of Petasites. Theophrastus, the Parent of Ec-  
tanic



tanic knowledge, called this plant *Petasites*, because its leaf resembled the round hat of the antient Theffalians, which they called *Petasis*; and in the time from him to *Dioscorides*, the *Ægyptian Colocasian Water Lilly*, having a round leaf also, obtained the same name. As both plants grew in watery places, the confusion became fixed: but still, when sudorific virtue is attributed to *Colocasia*, I think that all the praise belongs to this. *Galen* has signified his opinion plainly, by placing it with simple medicines, warm in the third degree.

The excellent *Fuchsius* is most express; and calls its virtues wonderful \* in Pestilential fevers: and this he speaks not from tradition, but his own experience. Shall we go on?—But it were needless to prove the Sun gives light; 'tis scarce less certain, or less obvious, that this root, beyond all things else, cures Pestilential Fevers.

\* Experimento comprobatum est radicem *Petasitidis* mirifice conferre pestilentialibus febribus.

## 2. PETASITES ELATIOR.

## TALL BUTTERBURR.

The Cluster of Flowers is long; and they stand loose.

This like the former grows in our wet grounds, and has all the particularities of its appearance: a Perennial that sends up its loose flowers in Spring; its leaves long after them.

The Stalk is as thick as a man's thumb, of a pale flesh colour, and leafless; only some thin films hang about it as in the preceding.

The Leaves are of an enormous magnitude, rugged on the surface, and of a pale green colour, with whitish ribs.

The Flowers are whitish, with a faint dash of flesh colour.

They blow in March.

The



The Root of this has all the taste and flavour of the former kind, but with more bitterness. Its qualities are undoubtedly the same, for they have been used indiscriminately: and this is in many places the more common. In a meadow near the late Sir William Bowyer's, at Denham, there grows enough of it to cure an army.

---

## H E R B S

With a tubulated Flower, growing in a Cup composed of many rows of Scales.

### I.

## T A N A C E T U M.

## T A N Z Y.

The Cup is a half oval. Its Scales stand up-  
D 4
right,

right, and are placed close, and compact; and they are thin and sharp pointed.

# 1. TANACETUM VULGARE.

## COMMON TANZ Y.

The Leaves are winged, and the small leaves are deeply cut in.

This is not only common in our gardens, but wild on our high grounds, and dry pastures in Durham; and some other parts of England. 'Tis a perennial, and well looking Plant.

The Stalk is upright, branchy, of a light green, and a yard high.

The Leaves are of a bright, and pleasing green, and of a very fragrant smell, not coarse as that of the Tanzy common in our gardens, but a pleasing aromatic.

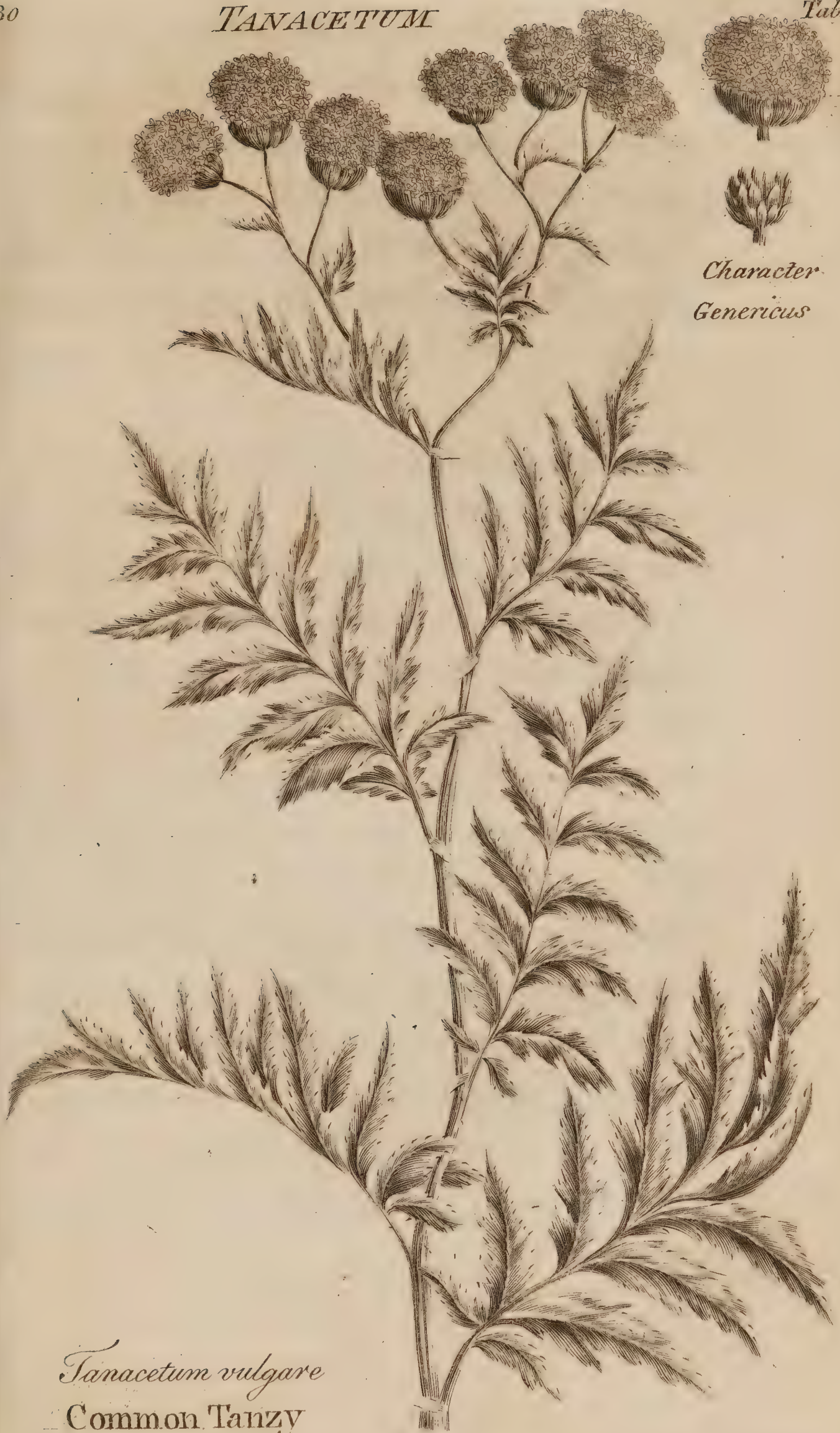
The Flowers are large, and of a bright yellow.

They blow in July and August.

Notwith-



TANACETUM



Character  
Genericus

*Tanacetum vulgare*  
Common Tanzy





Notwithstanding that the Tanzy of our gardens, is doubtless originally the same plant with this, they differ widely in their taste and flavour. This is a very pleasant herb, and worth our notice, with preference; where it is to be had: where it is not, the other may be taken in its place.

It is an agreeable bitter; a carminative, and a destroyer of worms: and 'tis in this capacity it is principally to be regarded. No complaint is so common; and few bring on so much mischief: beside the more common and obvious disorders they occasion; a wasting, even to death, and Putrid Fevers sometimes accompany, and indeed arise from them: and oftener than is thought, they are the cause of Epilectic Fits. The medicines given against them are for the most part ineffectual; and many of them mischievous. Hellebore has brought on Convulsions; and every one knows the danger of Mercurials. Besides the greater mischiefs of these latter medicines, 'tis fit the world should know that half  
the

the defective teeth in young people, are owing to Mercurials given when children.

To supersede these, nature has afforded us this herb in plenty; and Tragus, Hoffman, Etmuller, and Andry; names, one of which were sufficient in this case, join in the account of its thus destroying worms: but that is not all; they agree in its innocence and safety: and in this farther praise; that by strengthening the stomach, and preventing the slimy humour in the bowels which gives them harbour and support, it hinders also their return.

The Flowers are the part to be used, and they should be given in powder; but there requires care in the collecting them to obtain all their virtue. Clip off a quantity of Tanzy flowers before they are over blown, close to the stalk. Do this in the middle of a dry day; and spread them on the bottom of a hair sieve turned upside down; shake them often about, and let the wind blow thro' them; but keep them from the sun:

When



When they are perfectly dry let them be powdered ; and of this powder give six, eight, ten, or twelve grains at night, and early in the morning.

II.

C O N Y Z A:

PLOWMAN'S SPIKENARD.

The Cup is oblong and rugged ; and the Scales of it are sharp pointed ; and they stand wide, and bend out.

I. CONYZA SQUARROSA.

PLOWMAN'S SPIKENARD.

The Leaves are broad lanced.

This

This is a Biennial, a coarse, and but ill-looking plant : we see it by road sides, and in waste places, upon high and dry grounds, but not very common.

The Stalk rises to two foot and a half high, and is of a ruddy brown, brittle, dry, and branchy toward the top.

The Leaves are rugged on the surface, of a coarse dead green, and a little dented about the edges.

The Flowers are of a dull yellow, and stand in a close tuft, at the tops of the stalks.

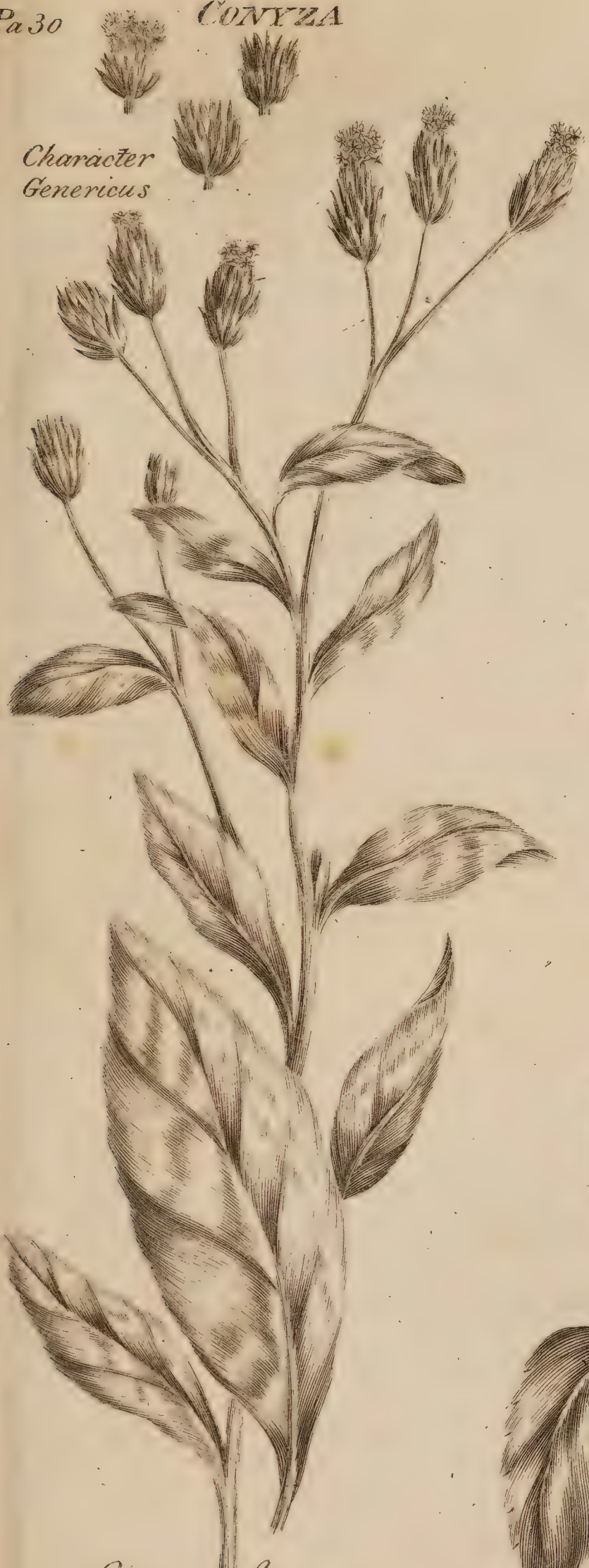
They blow in August.

The Leaves, when bruised, send forth a quick, and aromatic smell. To the taste they are bitterish, with some sharpness. Such taste and flavour cannot but bespeak some medicinal qualities; nor do the accounts authors have given of its virtues, contradict them : but they should be more ascertained. The old Tragus, (commonly very faithful,) recommends it to promote the menses : and indeed an innocent medicine of that kind is so desirable,



CONYZA

Character  
Genericus



*Conyza Squarrosa*  
Plowmans Spikenard

EUPATORIUM

Character Genericus



*Eupatorium cannabinum*  
Dutch Agrimony





desirable, and the obvious qualities of this plant are so promising, that I should recommend a very weak tea of it for careful trial. This might be watched with attention as to its effects; and made stronger when it is found that may be borne.

The caution is needful; for Cordus, a careful observer, says the herb is so hot as to render the mouth sore.

Some strength is required in such a medicine, and perhaps this has it. Where there is great efficacy, as in steel medicines, there is also great power of mischief: and we should have many different things to supersede their use.

Dioscorides gives great praise to Baccharis; attributing to it warm and attenuating qualities. It would be worth a very careful attention if it were possible we could be sure this was the Baccharis he meant: but unhappily there is that great confusion about the names of some of the  
plants,

plants, of which he had experience. We have been falling into the same mischief now; and all knowledge faded before it. I hope this publication may have its use in stopping the progress of a custom, which must in time destroy every attempt to help mankind. The greatest sorrow is that the most respected names have given too much countenance to the practice. Linnæus, worthy of all praise, yet not without his faults, has given the names of Dioscorides's plants, to new kinds found lately in America. If such a method be not stopped, good night to all.

## III.

## EUPATORIUM.

## DUTCH AGGRIMONY.

The Cup is conic, its Scales are lanced, they are unequal in size, and they stand strait upright.

## 1. EUPATORIUM CANNABINUM.

C O M-



## COMMON DUTCH AGRIMONY.

The Leaves are fingered.

This is a Perennial water-plant, a tall, specious, and very handsome one, that edges our brooks and rivulets, in most places.

The Stalk is red, and grows to four foot high, upright and branchy.

The Leaves are of a bright and lively green, soft to the touch, and disposed with a handsome regularity.

The Flowers are small, but innumerable; they are crowded together in a compact head, and are of a beautiful rose-colour.

They blow in August.

The Root is of an acrid, bitter, and unpleasant taste: and will purge. But it operates roughly, vomiting as well as purging: we have better.

It has been recommended in Dropsies, and the Jaundice. Externally, it has indeed its use. I have seen very bad fore legs cured by bathing and fomenting them with a decoction of this Plant.

# I N D E X,

A N D

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134

V I R T U E S  
O F  
BRITISH HERBS,  
AS USED IN FAMILIES.

By D<sup>R</sup> H I L L.

N U M B. III.

---

1772.





*17004. 71-*

V I R T U E S  
O F  
BRITISH HERBS.

WITH THEIR  
HISTORY, and FIGURES;  
An Account of the DISEASES they will cure,  
AND THE MANNER OF GIVING THEM;

CONTAINING,  
CURES—Of WEAKNESS OF THE STOMACH, by a Conserve of FIELD  
SOUTHERNWOOD.

Of WIND, by WORMWOOD.

Of QUINSIES, by the Herb YELLOW EVERLASTING, boil'd  
in Water.

Of the HOOPING COUGH, by CUDWEED, beat with Sugar.

Of DISORDERS OF YOUNG WOMEN, by MUGWORT, drank as  
Tea.

Of SORE BREASTS, by GROUNDSELL, apply'd as a Poultice.

Of the GRAVEL, by the Herb GOATSBEARD; with a singular  
History.

Of DEAFNESS, by the Juice of SOWTHISTLE: with the Case  
of a Gentleman, attended with singular Circumstances.

Of ERUPTIONS ON THE SKIN, by GOSMORE.

Of HEAT OF URINE, by a SONCHUS SALLAD.

A peculiar Instance of WEAKNESS of the BOWELS, cured by the Herb  
GNAPHALIUM, boil'd in Water.

And an Account of the SUSSEX Remedy for HORSES that have WORMS, by  
the SEA COTTONWEED.

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By JOHN HILL, M. D.

MEMBER of the IMPERIAL ACADEMY.

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L O N D O N :

Printed for the A U T H O R,

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HOOPER; WHEBLE, and PEARCE.

M.DCC.LXXII.





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V I R T U E S  
O F  
B R I T I S H H E R B S.

---

IV.

A R T E M I S I A.

M U G W O R T.

**T**HE Cup is rounded: its Scales are also rounded; and they stand close, and turn in.

1. ARTEMISIA VULGARIS.

COMMON MUGWORT.

The Leaves are white on their under side.

This is a Perennial; frequent on waste

N<sup>o</sup> III.

B

grounds,

grounds, by buildings ; and about dry hedges ; a tall, handsome Herb, tho' not conspicuous for its Flowers.

The Stalk is of a ruddy brown ; firm, hard, and four foot high ; upright, and full of branches, with spiry tops.

The Leaves are of a deep, dusky green on the upper side ; but white underneath ; and very handsomely divided into many sharp parts.

The Flowers are chaffy, small, and of a pale brown ; very numerous, and disposed in long spikes.

They blow in July and August.

The Leaves and Flowers, and the tops of the young Shoots in this Plant are all full of virtue : they are aromatic to the taste, with a little sharpness ; and are a most safe and excellent medicine in female disorders arising from obstruction.

The Herb has been famous for this from the earliest time ; and Providence has placed it every where



Character Genericus



1  
*Artemisia Vulgaris.*  
Common Mugwort

2  
*Artemisia Absinthium.*  
Common Wormwood





where about our doors : so that reason and authority, as well as the notice of our senses, point it out for use : but chemistry has banish'd natural medicines.

Dioscorides bestows high praises on the Herb ; and directs the flowery tops to be used, just before they open into bloom : he determines the dose to be three drams ; and the manner of taking it as tea. 'Tis happy, when the antients, who saw the great effect of these medicines, have been so accurate in the dose, and manner of giving them ; wherever they have, we find them always right ; and may depend on them as our best guides : where they have not been so particular, no guess, or bold opinion, is to be indulg'd ; but all is to be learn'd from careful trial. To be assured of their medicines, is the first care ; and that being ascertained, we shall be certain to find the accounts they give us of their virtues true, if we will wait with patience till we find the dose ; beginning from a little. The many who

apply to me, wearied with the expence, and tired of the vain hope of relief from the common practice, give me abundant opportunities of finding this, safely, and exactly ; and if these publications may convey clearly to mankind the way to reap the advantages of antient Galenical medicines, the attention to the object will have been well bestow'd.

There is no better medicine for young women, in whom the efforts of nature are too weak, than this : the Flowers and Buds should be strip'd off from the tops of the Stalks : three drams of these clip'd small, should be put into a basin, and half a pint of boiling water poured upon them ; and when just cool it is to be drank with a little sugar and cream : this is to be taken twice a day, during the time of nature's effort ; and she will rarely want any farther help ; but if its effect be not altogether sufficient, such a tea of it should be drank afterwards every day. Nothing is so destructive to the constitution as the use of too powerful medicines



medicines on this occasion : this is sufficient, and can do no harm.

But 'tis not to this time of life 'tis limited ; it may be taken at any period : and there is a peculiar way of use, in which I have directed it with great advantage. A lady of thirty-eight, unmarried, and healthy, after riding many mornings on horseback ; a new exercise to her, and therefore over pleasing, found herself disappointed at the period of her expectation ; with feverish heat, pain, swelling, and, I believe inflammation. She had been blooded in the foot, had taken Pennyroyal water ; and was entering upon something of more power, when the good lady \* \* \* \* \* named to me her situation. I told her instantly of this Herb ; and that the excellent Dioscorides, a better physician than Friend or Mead, advised the sitting over the steam of a decoction of it on certain occasions ; and that in this particular case, that way seemed in every sense most proper. A pound of Mugwort was boiled in two gal-

lons of water: the whole was put together into a pan; and when the vapour was not too hot to be born, the lady sat over it. It was done at night; and before morning, all was well, and happy.

## 2. ARTEMISIA ABSYNTHIUM.

### COMMON WORMWOOD.

The Leaves are pale on both sides; and the Flowers hang down.

This is a Perennial Weed, which nature has thrown every where about our doors: farm-yards and dry waste grounds are full of it; and tho' its taste and smell are both forbidding, they still might reasonably lead men to suppose it possess'd, as in truth it is, of great virtues.

The Stalk is of a pale green, tough, upright, and divided wildly into many branches: it grows to a yard high.

The Leaves are of a pale green, divided into  
a mul-



a multitude of parts, and they feel soft to the touch, but make the fingers bitter.

The Flowers are very numerous, small, chaffy, and of a pale olive-colour at first, but after standing a while, they grow brownish.

They blow in June and July.

A great deal has been said of the virtues of Wormwood, and more yet may with truth ; but there are three kinds of it ; and to enjoy the full powers it possesses, they must be known, and well distinguished ; for each kind has its appropriated disease to combat ; and its particular manner in which to be given. The three kinds are these, the Common, the Sea, and the Roman ; the two first are wild in our country ; the third is frequent in the physic gardens, and may always be had : but as not a native, is not figur'd here.

Of these the Common is the strongest ; the Sea Wormwood is the second in bitterness ; and

the Roman joins a great deal of aromatic flavour, with but a little bitter.

The Common Wormwood now describ'd, is very excellent in weakness of the stomach ; and, far beyond the common knowledge, is powerful against the gout and gravel.

The Leaves have commonly been used, but the flowery tops are the right part. These, made into a light infusion, strengthen digestion, correct acidities, and supply the place of gall, where, as in many constitutions, that is deficient.

One ounce of the Flowers and Buds should be put into an earthen vessel, a pint and half of boiling water poured on them, and thus to stand all night. In the morning the clear liquor with two spoonfuls of wine should be taken at three draughts, an hour and half distance from one another. Whoever will do this



this regularly for a week, will have no sickness after meals, will feel none of that fulness so frequent from indigestion, and wind will be no more troublesome: if afterwards, he will take but a fourth part of this each day, the benefit will be lasting.

If an ounce of these Flowers be put into a pint of brandy, and let to stand six weeks, there will be a tincture produced, of which a table-spoonful taken in half a gill of water twice a day, will in a great measure prevent the increase of the gravel; and give great relief in the gout. The celebrated Baron Haller has found vast benefit by this; and myself have very happily followed his example.

This sort of tincture is a family medicine, and a few such kept in readiness will save the expence; and, what is much more, the mischief of ignorant practitioners.

### 3. ARTEMISIA

### 3. ARTEMISIA CAMPESTRIS. FIELD SOUTHERNWOOD.

The Leaves are divided into many parts like threads.

This is a very pretty Perennial Plant, that loves the hedge sides of high and dry pasture grounds, associating with the wild thyme and blue bell, but less common : it grows to a yard high, with a multitude of spreading branches.

The Stalk is dry, hard, brittle, glossy, and red, and leans upon the ground toward its base.

The Leaves are thick, firm, and of a fine strong green.

The Flowers are of a pale olive-colour, few, and small.

They blow in July.

The Plant is of a warm, fine, pleasant, aromatic



matic taste, with a little bitterness, not enough to be disagreeable. It wants but to be more common and more known to be very highly valued. In Cambridgeshire, where it is very common, I have given it in the form of Conserve, with a great deal of success, in weaknesses of the stomach. The manner is thus : Clip four ounces of the Leaves fine, and beat them in a mortar, with six ounces of loaf sugar, till the whole is like a paste ; three times a day take the bigness of a nutmeg of this : it is pleasant, and very effectual ; and one thing in it is particular, it is a composer ; and always disposes the person to sleep. Opiates weaken the stomach, and must not be given often where we wish for their assistance : this possesses the soothing quality without the mischief. I thought it singular in this Plant, but lately have found on many careful trials that the Columba has the like qualities ; a bitter and an opiate. How easily nature mixes powers which to us would appear contradictory.

#### 4. ARTEMISIA

## 4. ARTEMISIA MARITIMA.

## SEA WORMWOOD.

The Leaves are covered with a white thick down.

This is a Perennial; a hardy Weed, that covers many acres of our sea coast in different parts of the kingdom; a spreading Plant, and of a singular, tho' not elegant appearance.

The Stalk is white, woolly, hard, half a yard high, and has a few short and irregular Branches.

The Leaves are tough, firm, and white.

The Flowers are pale brown; and the Shoots on which they stand, hang drooping.

They blow in July.

This is a very noble bitter; its peculiar province is to give an appetite, as that of the Common Wormwood is to assist digestion: the flowery tops, and the young Leaves and Shoots possess



ARTEMISIA



*Artemisia campestris* 1  
Field Southemwood

2  
*Artemisia*  
*Maritima*  
Sea  
Wormwood





possess the virtue ; the older Leaves and the Stalk should be thrown away as useless. Boiling water poured upon it produces an excellent stomachic infusion ; but the best way is, taking it in a tincture made with brandy, in the same proportion as was directed before. For lesser complaints, the Conserve, such as directed to be made of the field Southernwood, agreeably answers the purpose. The apothecaries put three times as much sugar as of the ingredient in their Conserve ; but the virtue is lost in the sweetness : those will not keep so well that have less sugar, but 'tis easy to make them fresh as they are wanted.

The Roman Wormwood differs not much from this ; the Leaves are finer cut, and less woolly. This last is the most delicate, but of least strength. The Wormwood wine so famous with the Germans, is made with Roman Wormwood, put into the juice, and work'd with it : it is a strong and an excellent wine, not unpleasant, yet of such efficacy to give an  
 appetite,

appetite, that the Germans drink a glass with every other mouthful, and that way eat for hours together, without sickness or indigestion.

But over and above the immediate effects of Wormwood upon the stomach; and besides the good we have related of it in the gout and gravel; its powers, and efficacy, are scarce to be credited in the vast extent of cases, wherein it can do great good indeed. The family who will understand and apply this and a few more of the medicines at their door, will have slight use for other physic.

I have cured the very worst hysteric complaints only by constant use of the tincture of Common Wormwood, made as here directed.

In the scurvy it has prov'd of excellent service to many patients; in the hypochondriacal disorders of studious sedentary men, few things have greater power: for these it is best in a strong infusion; and I have seen great good



from the Common Wormwood, given in jaundices and dropfies.

The whole blood, and all the juices of the body, are affected by the taking Wormwood. The milk of nurfes taking it is bitter.

V.

GNAPHALIUM.

CUDWEED.

The Cup is rounded; but its Scales are oval: they stand loose, and turn a little in; and they are filmy, bright, and often colour'd.

I. GNAPHALIUM SYLVATICUM.

UPRIGHT CUDWEED.

The Stalk is fimple, without any Branches; and the Flowers stand fcatter'd.

This is a Biennial; a little Plant, upright,  
fimple

simple in its aspect, and yet very pretty : it rises among the fallen Leaves in our dry woods, and gives a sweet variety of aspect.

The Stalk is a foot high, whitish, dry, and brittle.

The Leaves are white, and cottony, soft to the touch, and tough.

The Flowers are of a dusky brown, bright, and glossy.

They blow in July and August ; and last a long time : 'tis the quality of all the Cudweeds to keep their beauty long.

The taste of this Plant is singular ; 'tis in some degree austere and astringent, yet there is in it a mucilaginous quality. Geoffroy calls it oily, but I think he mistakes, However that be, there is a promise of virtues from the taste, and it has been but little try'd. We have several other kinds ; therefore the enquiry is more needful ; but till the collected accounts  
of



of our various country places here to be given, little has been known about them.

The tops of this Plant, before it has reach'd its full growth, have the virtue. I have seen it used only in one place. 'Tis frequent in Charlton Forest in Suffex, and was given with success for that almost incurable disease the Chin-cough. A servant of the late Dutchess of Richmond gave it; and it was beat up into a Conserve, very fine, with a great deal of sugar, and the bigness of a pea eaten at a time.

## 2. GNAPHALIUM GALLICUM.

### CORN CUDWEED.

The Leaves are grassy; and the Flowers grow in their bosoms.

This is a little Annual Weed, among our corn, trampled upon, unseen, and wholly unregarded.

The Stalk is five or six inches high, and divided in a forked manner, with a few straggling Branches.

The Leaves are long, narrow, white, and flabby.

The Flowers are of a glossy brown, and stand in their bosoms.

They blow in June.

It has the taste and seeming qualities of the former ; but we know nothing of its use.

### 3. GNAPHALIUM MARITIMUM.

#### SEA CUDWEED.

The Leaves are broad, and obtuse, and covered with a woolly matter.

This is an Annual ; a singular, pretty, and fragrant Plant : it covers the yellow sand of our sea-coasts in some places for miles together, rising in tufts of silver upon the golden ground ; but 'tis not common in all parts of England.



The Stalk is five inches high, thick, white, and covered with wool.

The Leaves seem form'd of wool, not covered with it; one scarce can see their outline.

The Flowers are of a chesnut brown; upon which there plays, in the sun, a tinge of golden yellow, which, set off by the whiteness of the Leaves, brings to the mind that beautiful passage of Shakespeare, who calls the island on whose shore it grows, a Golden Gem, set in the silver sea.

They blow in June, and last till the frost kills the Plant.

In Suffex, where 'tis common, the farmers give it to their horses troubled with worms. I enquired carefully, but had not a fair account of any worms absolutely voided on the giving it: yet still 'tis worth continuing a trial. 'Tis innocent; and what is singular enough, Boccone in his Museum recommends one of the Cudweeds, tho' not this, for the

same purpose. I should wonder how an Italian anecdote came to the knowledge of an English farmer, did I not remember that the late Duke of Richmond had a Piedmontese servant, who was a person of genius, a poet, and, for his station, very knowing.

#### 4. GNAPHALIUM DIOICEUM.

#### CATSFoot CUDWEED.

The Stalk is simple ; and the Flowers grow in a thick head.

This is a Perennial ; a very singular and extremely beautiful little Plant, frequent on the Welch mountains ; and found, tho' in less glory, about Newmarket, and on other high grounds in England : it grows in tufts and clumps ; covering the burnt soil with an elegance unknown from any other Plant, and in any other places.

Mr. Vaughan, a gentleman of Wales, to  
whom



whom I owe many Plants, introduced this into gardens; bordering the beds and walks with it as our people do with Thrift; and it renews itself every season, in fit soils, with an amazing beauty.

The Stalks straggle upon the ground to six or eight inches in length, and some rise to four inches high for flowering; they are white, and downy.

The Leaves are woolly, of a greyish green, and very pretty.

The Flowers make a large head; an inch often in breadth, and of great beauty: they are close set, and are naturally of a glowing, tho' not strong crimson: often they are white; and I have seen them of a light violet colour: in whatever state, they are everlasting; and having no juices, never lose their colour, or their lustre.

They blow in July.

The beauty of this Plant must be its value: we know not its virtue.

5. GNAPHALIUM GERMANICUM.  
COMMON CUDWEED.

The Stalk is forked ; the Flowers grow in oblong tufts in the divisions.

This is an Annual ; a singular little Weed ; frequent every where in corn-fields, and on barren hills, and heaths, and banks.

The Stalk is seven inches high, tough, and of a whitish brown.

The Leaves are oblong, wav'd, and of a whitish olive-colour.

The Flowers are brown, with yellowish tips ; and they are bright and glossy.

They blow in July and August.

The astringent virtues of the Cudweeds have been brought to use in this Species ; many have given it inwardly against fluxes of the belly, and with success : it operates effectually,  
but

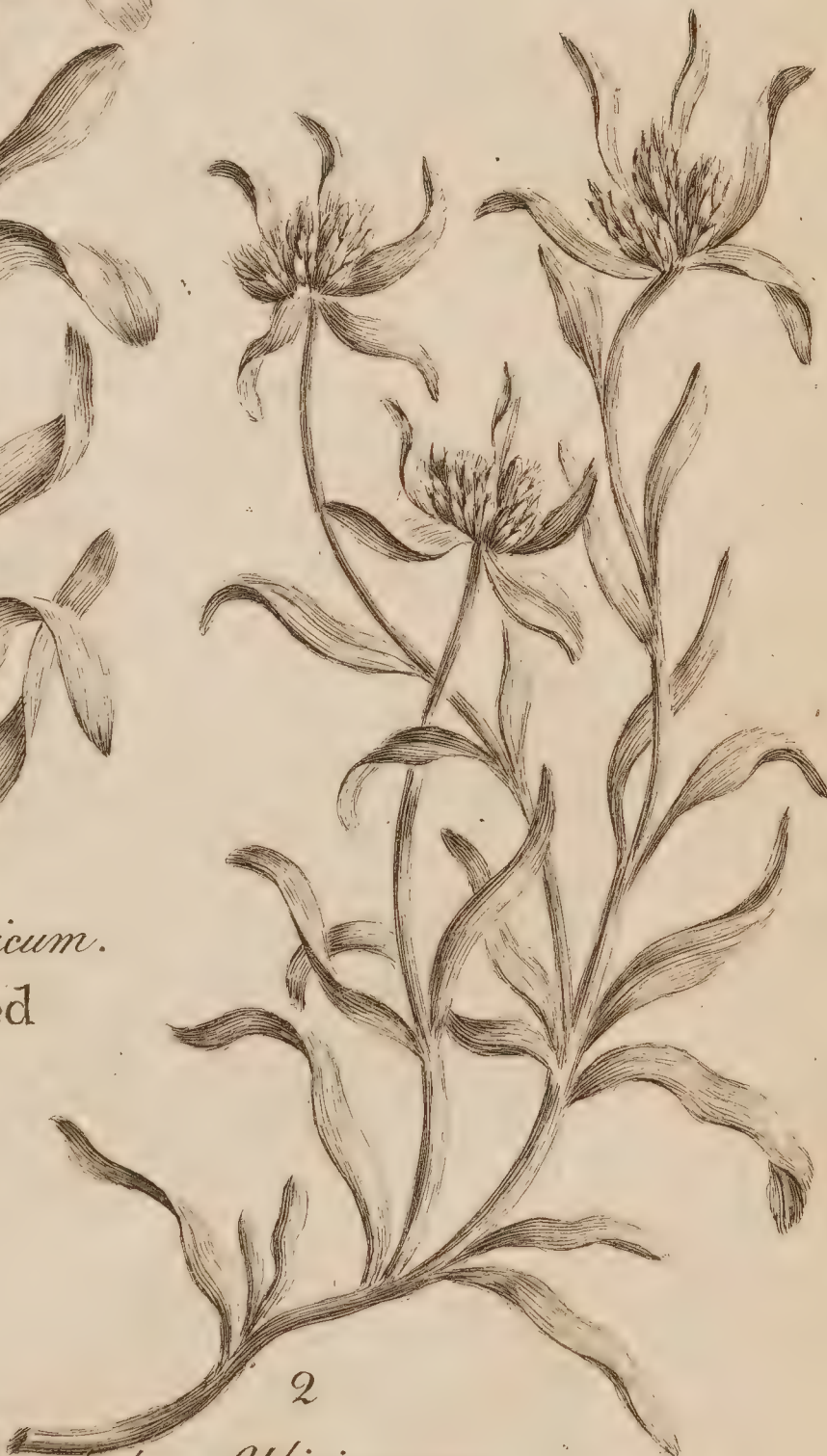


2



*Gnaphalium Germanicum.*  
Common Cudweed

2

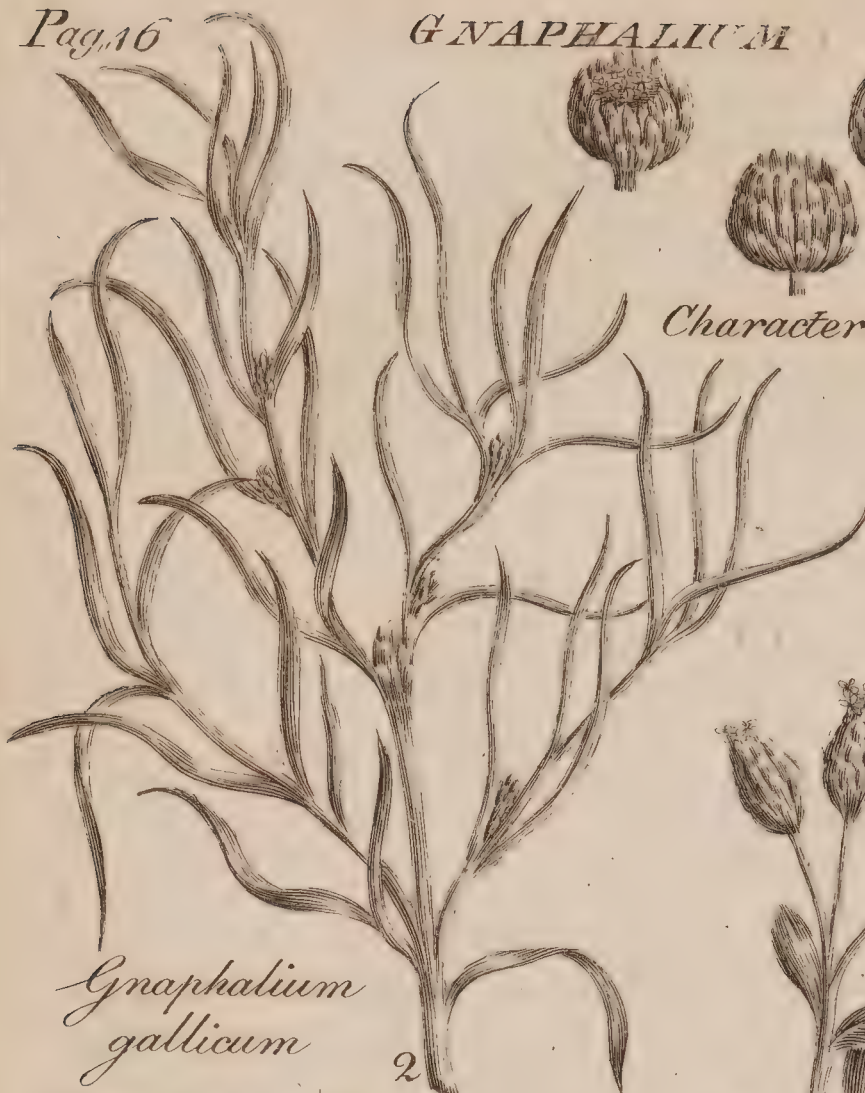


*Gnaphalium Uliginosum.*  
Black headed Cudweed









*Gnaphalium gallicum*  
2  
French Cudweed



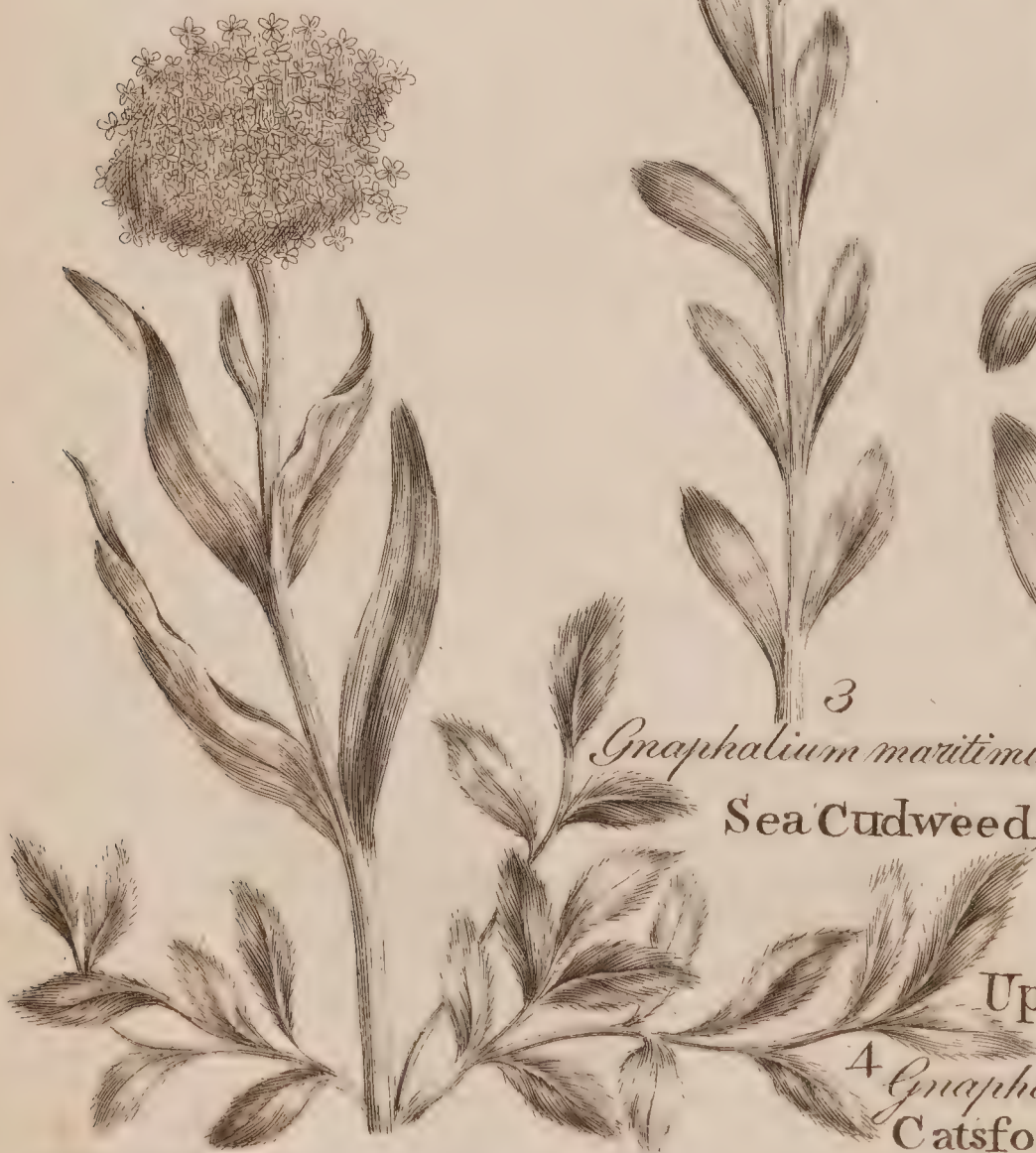
Character Genericus



3  
*Gnaphalium maritimum*  
Sea Cudweed



1  
*Gnaphalium Sylvaticum*  
Upright Cudweed



4  
*Gnaphalium Dioecium*  
Catsfoot Cudweed



but not strongly, which is best ; for that is always dangerous.

The method in which I have seen it given is this : Cut to pieces two ounces of the entire Herb, Leaves, Stalks, and Flowers ; boil them in a quart of water till less than a pint remains, then strain it clear off, and give a gill for a dose, with two spoonfuls of red Port wine : it is to be repeated once in ten hours, till the complaint ceases.

## 7. GNAPHALIUM ULIGINOSUM.

### BLACKHEADED CUDWEED.

The Stalk divides into many Branches, and is weak ; the Flowers stand several together at the tops.

This is an Annual ; a low Weed, of singular aspect ; as frequent in our wet places by road sides as the preceding is in dry ones.

The Stalk is about four inches high; sometimes seven or eight; and is white, tough, and downy.

The Leaves are very soft, downy, and of a whitish olive-colour.

The Flowers are black, singular, and striking. They blow in August.

A child of eight years old had a weakness of its bowels, which threatened its destruction. I cured it by the use of this Plant in clysters. A handful of the Herb chop'd small was boil'd in a pint and half of water: and when only half a pint remained, it was thrown up as a clyster, without any addition; and repeated daily till all was well.

## 7. GNAPHALIUM ARVENSE.

### LITTLE CUDWEED.

The Stalk is upright, and divided into a multitude of Branches; the Flowers are oblong, and pointed.

This



This is an Annual ; a little Weed, in our corn-fields, and kitchen-gardens, following the spade and plow, every where in dry grounds.

The Stalk is firm, robust, white, and about five inches high.

The Leaves are whitish, downy, and sharp pointed.

The Flowers are of a shining chefnut brown.

They blow in August.

Its qualities seem the same with the preceding, but it has not been try'd.

## 8. GNAPHALIUM MONTANUM.

### MOUNTAIN CUDWEED.

This is a little crawling Annual Plant, that straggles about our dry pastures and heaths.

Its Stalk is seven inches long, and branchy ; but weak, and only in part raised from the surface.

The

The Leaves are white, and leathery.

The Flowers are snow white; and as they have the natural gloss of all the Cudweeds, they look like irregular clusters of pearls.


They blow in August.

Essex is full of this little Herb; and 'tis common in Wales; else we do not often meet with it: the virtues are unknown.

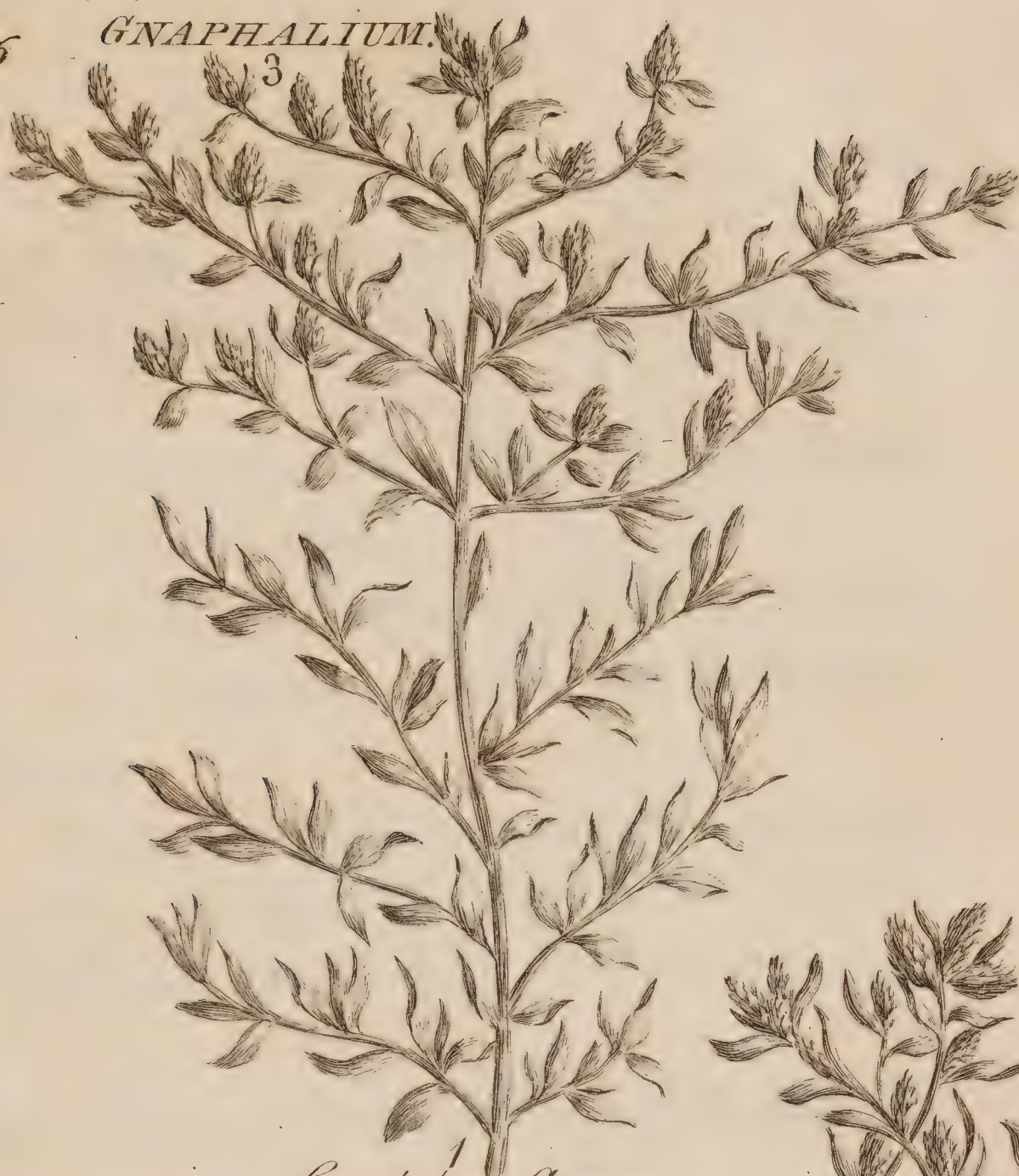
#### 9. GNAPHALIUM MARGARITACEUM.

#### WHITE EVERLASTING CUDWEED.

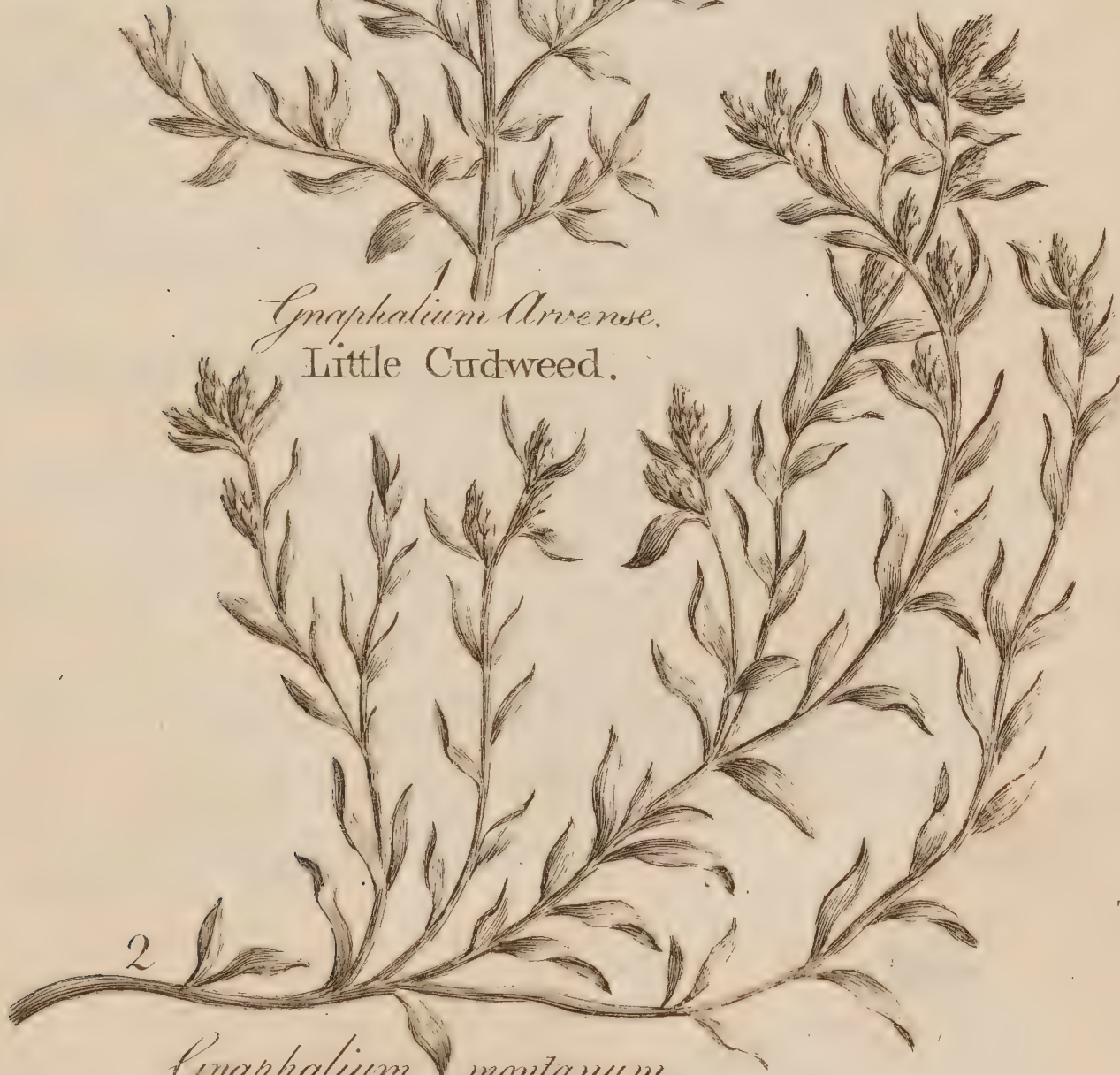
The Stalk is branched toward the upper part; and the Flowers make a broad head.

This is a Perennial; a hardy, singular, and very pretty Plant; that gives a silvery whiteness to the pasture grounds in Wales, and some parts of England; but is not common wild, tho' very frequent in our gardens. 





1  
*Gnaphalium Arvense.*  
Little Cudweed.



2  
*Gnaphalium montanum.*  
Mountain Cudweed.





The Stalk is a foot and half high, white, firm, thick, and branch'd.

The Leaves are long, tough, and of a dead white.

The Flowers are perfectly white, and glossy; they shine like pearls.

They blow in July; and they last in beauty for ever: we call it therefore the White Everlasting.

The Leaves boil'd to softness in water are excellent, apply'd outwardly to bruises; the blackness is carry'd off safely, and quickly by them.

#### 10. GNAPHALIUM LUTEO-ALBUM.

#### YELLOW EVERLASTING CUDWEED.

The Leaves are sword shap'd, and half surround the Stalk at their Base.

This is an Annual; a beautiful wild Plant, in our islands of Guernsey and Jersey; and worthy a place in all gardens.

The

The Stalk is a foot high, white, tough, and has few Branches.

The Leaves are of a whitish green above, and quite white underneath.

The Flowers are of a bright lemon colour, fine, and glossy.

They blow in August ; and they hold their beauty for ever.

In Jersey Quinsies are frequent ; and they cure them with this Herb. About two ounces of the Leaves and Tops are put into a quart of boiling water ; the liquor is strained clear, and a cup of it drank every two hours ; and the Leaves wet, and warm from the liquor are apply'd outwardly. This, with bleeding in the arm, very happily cures.



# H E R B S

With tubulated Flowers growing in a  
Cup fringed at the Base.

I.

G R O U N D S E L L.

S E N E C I O.

The Cup is conic; and its fringe is short.

I. S E N E C I O V U L G A R I S.

COMMON GROUNDSELL.

The Leaves are cut into deep and irregular  
notches.

This is an Annual; a Weed most troublesome in fields and gardens; and frequent on old walls, and in all waste places.

The Stalk is tender, juicy, weak, and eight inches high.

The

The Leaves are of a deep, but disagreeable green ; soft, and tender.

The Flowers are numerous, poor, and yellow.

They blow all summer.

There is scarce an instance where very common Plants have not their value and uses : this common Weed has many, tho' neglected, virtues.

An infusion of it, made in the manner of tea, is an innocent and easy vomit.

The Leaves, bruised and applied outwardly to the stomach, will produce the same effect ; and there is no better application for the gripes, and cholics of infants ; when attended with sickness and reachings.

Few disorders give more terror to women than inflamed and sore breasts ; but this common and innocent Herb cures them perfectly. Pick a handful of the fresh, juicy Leaves ; bruise them



4



1.

2

*Gnaphalium margaritaceum*  
American Cudweed

*Gnaphalium luteo album*  
Jersey Cudweed





them with a little bread, boil'd soft in milk, and lay them on ; repeat this as often as it becomes dry, using fresh gather'd Leaves every time. A few applications cure in slight cases ; but very bad ones will give way to a constant repetition.

## II.

### J A S I O N E.

#### S H E E P S R A M P I O N.

The Cup is oval ; and the fringe is composed of five long Leaves.

#### I. J A S I O N E M O N T A N A.

#### H A I R Y S H E E P S R A M P I O N.

This is a Biennial ; a singular and pretty Plant : it grows on heaths.

The Stalk is dry, brittle, slender, and of a pale green.

The

The Leaves are of a pale dead green, and a little hairy : milk runs from them when broken.

The Flowers are of a very beautiful blue, pale, and elegant : they blow in August.

The Plant is perfectly singular ; and its virtues are quite unknown.

I judge by its taste and smell, that it is eminently cooling and diuretic, and have marked it for a careful trial. I wish others would try it with me ; always using this caution in new things, to begin upon one's self, because we best feel what may be expected ; and to take small doses first, and then increase them boldly. In this way there will be no danger ; and the stores are infinite that may be added to medicine, for he is infinite in goodness who gave them, and he has given to us Reason to direct us in their discovery and use.





Character  
Genericus.

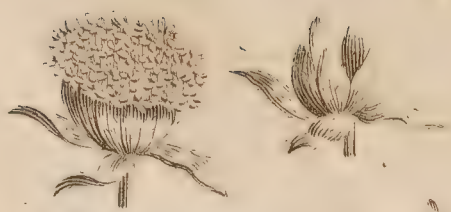
SENEIO.



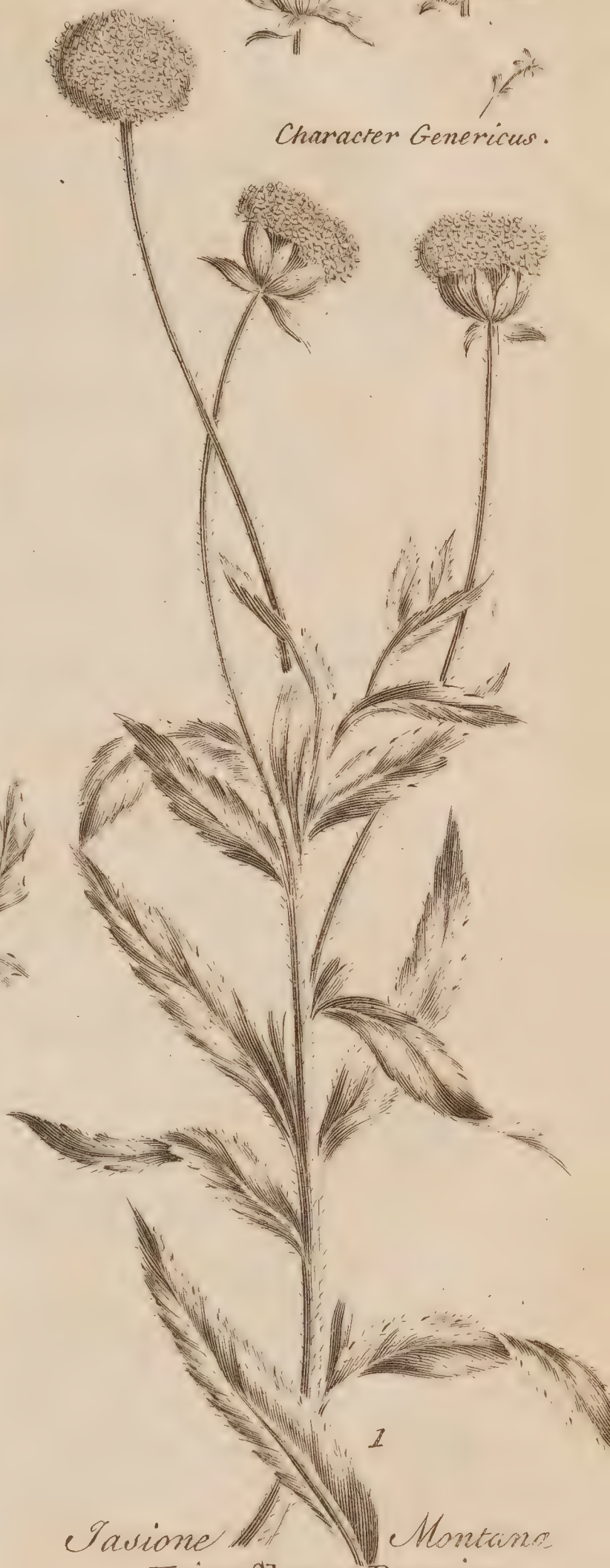
*Seneio Vulgaris.*  
Common Groundsel.

1

JASIONE.



Character Genericus.



*Jasione Montana*  
Hairy Sheeps Rampion.

1





## H E R B S

Which have a ligulated Flower, composed wholly of flat Rays; growing in a double Cup; form'd of two distinct rows of Scales.

## I. T R A G O P O G O N.

## G O A T S B E A R D.

The Cup is composed of eight Scales; and they spread out.

## I. T R A G O P O G O N P R A T E N S E.

## Y E L L O W G O A T S B E A R D.

The Leaves are flat, and grassy.

This is a Biennial; frequent in our pasture grounds; a very handsome Plant.

The Stalk is firm, upright, of a light pleasing green, and a foot high.

N<sup>o</sup> III.

D

The

The Leaves are grassy, of a pleasing blueish green ; tender, and milky, when broken.

The Flowers are yellow, large, and beautiful ; they close in the mid-day, and our country people therefore call it, *Go to bed at noon*.

They blow in July.

The Herb is so innocent, it may be eaten ; and so pleasant, that it invites the appetite : yet it is possessed of virtues very worthy notice ; and there is no way so good of giving medicines, when that can be done. Our food we eat by pounds ; but medicines find their way into the body by drams and scruples ; what we eat passes thro' the whole frame with our nourishment ; the physic reaches often but a small part of it. Receive an instance of the effect of this.

A man of thirty-six had a disorder in the kidneys : frequent fits like the gravel came upon him ; with vomitings and strangury, colics, and horrid pain ; water, like coffee-grounds, was voided by drops ; often foul matter came with it, and sometimes, after pains like labour,



a small bit of ragged gravel. There was no medicine that he had not try'd ; few hospitals that had not received him as a patient ; but not only no relief was found, but medicines inflam'd and irritated ; and always increased his torture. When I saw him he had not slept for three nights, and he lay howling ; what strength he had was all exerted in horrible lamentations ; and there was colic, sickness, vomiting, and a total suppression of urine : they supposed him lost, fated to die in the most cruel tortures. To a disease that admitted no violent medicine, yet required a powerful one, I apply'd vast doses of this Herb ; which I knew to be effectual, and at the same time, innocent ; the happy character of these, and only of these medicines from Plants.

First, a large double handful of the entire Plant, Roots, Flowers, and all, was bruised in a marble mortar, then boiled in two quarts of water to a pint : this was strained off ; a full half pint was given, as a clyster, with two table

spoonfuls of fallad oil, a spoonful of coarse sugar, and a tea spoonful of salt: he grew easier in a very few minutes.

Half a pound of the Roots were boiled in three pints of water for eight minutes, then the liquor set off, and strain'd when cold: he took a wine glass of this with half a spoonful of sweet-oil, and the same quantity of mountain, once in an hour: it sat well on his stomach; he grew easier; but still no urine was procured: the clyster was repeated after three hours; he continued the decoction, and the vomiting ceased; but a little colic still remain'd. At the end of eight hours there burst forth a quantity of tough, foul, clotted matter, and urine followed in abundance. He grew well from that time; and tho' this is eleven years since, he has kept well by a constant use of the same decoction, and recourse to the clysters when necessary. This is a history worth a long remembrance.



## 2. TRAGOPOGON PORRIFOLIUM.

## PURPLE GOATSBEARD.

The Leaves are like the Leaves of Leeks ; the Flower-Stalk grows thick at its top.

This is a Biennial ; a wild Plant, in our pastures, very stately and beautiful : it thrives best where there is some moisture.

The Stalk is firm, upright, and near a yard high.

The Leaves are large, long, and of a fine fresh green.

The Flowers are purple ; and their long green Cups behind, add greatly to their beauty.

They blow in June and July, and shut up at noon, as the other. There is a beautiful variety of this, with the centre of the Flower yellow, the rest purple ; it rises from the Seeds of one kind impregnated by the Farina of the other.

The virtues of this are the same as those of

the other, only less in degree : but 'tis pleasanter, and may be eaten in great quantities, and that way will be very useful in long lasting complaints. I knew a man cured of troublesome obstructions of the gall, that kept him in continual fears of jaundice, by eating constantly once every day, a plate of the Root of this Plant stewed, as we do chardoons.

---

## H E R B S

With ligulated Flowers standing in a Cup, form'd of many rows of Scales, laid like tiles over one another.

I.

S O N C H U S.

S O W T H I S T L E.

The Cup is oval, and bloated ; the Scales of it are unequal, narrow, and conic.

I. S O N C H U S



*Character*  
*Genericus*



*Tragopogon*  
*Pratense*  
Yellow Goatsbeard.

2  
*Tragopogon*  
*Porrifolium*  
Purple Goatsbeard





## 1. SONCHUS ARVENSIS.

## TREE SOWTHISTLE.

The Leaves which grow on the Stalk are hearted at the Base.

This is a Biennial ; a tall, spreading Plant ; frequent in corn-fields, where the soil is wet and clayey : a very troublesome weed to farmers.

The Stalk is tender, hollow, of a yellowish green, and more than a yard high.

The Leaves are of a yellowish green, and run with milk, when broken ; as most of these Plants do.

The Flowers are large, and of an orange yellow.

They blow in August.

The virtue of this Plant lies in its milky juice ; which is of great value, in difficulty of hearing. This often arises from obstructing wax, often from inflammation, and sometimes

from both these causes conjoined : an instance of its wonderful power in such a case, may be useful to many.

A gentleman of fifty-six, in bed with a fit of the gout, waked one morning with a confused noise like singing in his head : and heard nothing that was said to him ; he was astonished, and his family confounded : the physician was called, who was not of the most eminent, but talked of inflammation ; and the surgeon, who looked very grave, and after dismissing the family out of the chamber, asked after venereal complaints : fearing the very worst ; and frightening the Patient that a symptom of this kind might arise after many years : and that 'twas very difficult of cure. It happened I came in, not as a doctor, but a friend : and having had the gout ; and a temporary deafness with it, (a mere symptom arising in the course of that disease,) I beg'd the learned leave of those gentlemen to try the juice of the tree Sowthistle. I am ashamed to add, that the name seemed a  
paradox :



paradox : they had heard of cabbage trees ; but a tree Sowthistle, was an absurdity too great for them to swallow. However, after referring them to every herbal in their own language, for a proof, that this was a very well known name ; I had permission that its juice might be try'd, upon condition I would take the hazard and the blame upon myself ; they declaring they knew nothing of the effects of the Herb. This parade did not alarm the patient's friends, but it made them more attentive to the event. A handful of the Stalk and Leaves of the tree Sowthistle were beat in a marble mortar, and press'd ; four spoonfuls of the juice were put into a vial, with two spoonfuls of fallad-oil, and one tea spoonful of salt. The whole was shook together, and some of it poured out into a cup ; two little lumps of cotton were wetted in this liquor, and one of them put into each ear. In an hour the singing and noises ceased ; in another he heard distinctly : the inflammation, which was but slight, ceas'd entirely ; and a great deal of ear wax came forward, and  
was

was discharged: by continuing this he never had any return: and myself, as well as those who saw the little miracle, have directed it to numbers in cases of hardness of hearing since. There are some deafnesses this will not reach; the venereal is one, which it cannot affect: but in forty-nine in fifty cases it will readily cure: and in that kind, which comes gradually on with advanced years, it is a most excellent application.

## 2. SONCHUS PALUSTRIS.

### MARSH SOWTHISTLE.

The Leaves are shap'd like arrow heads at their base.

This is a Biennial; native of the Thames sides; and frequent in other wet places where there is deep mud: a vast and not unhandsome Plant.

The Stalk is hollow, tender, of a pale green, and a yard and a half high.

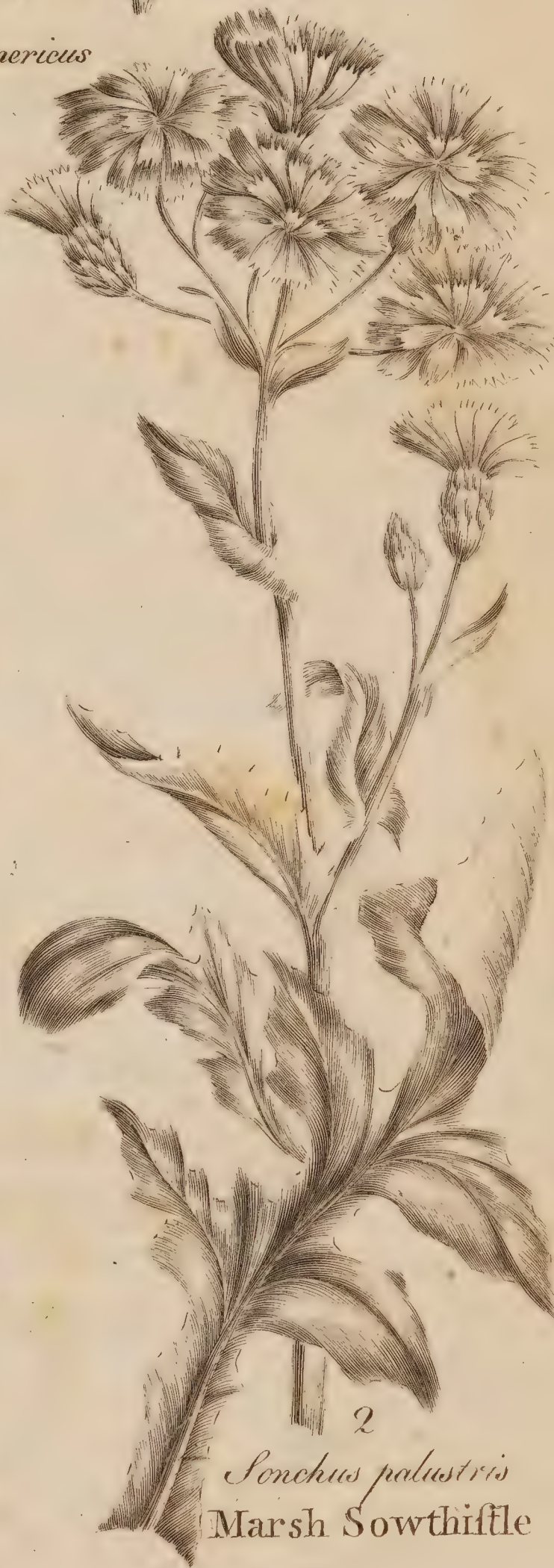
The



Character Genericus



*Sonchus arvensis*  
Tree Sowthistle



*Sonchus palustris*  
Marsh Sowthistle





The Leaves are soft, and tender, of a light green, and pale underneath.

The Flowers are of a light yellow, and very numerous ; and they stand in a broad clustering head.

They blow in August.

The whole Plant is insipid, and of little use or value. Hares eat it.

### 3. SONCHUS OLERACEUS.

#### COMMON SOWTHISTLE.

The Leaves half embrace the Stalk ; and the Cups are smooth.

This is an Annual ; a robust Weed, that rises in all gardens, and waste grounds ; troublesome most of all to kitchen gardeners.

The Stalk is tender, hollow, branch'd, and of a light green, and two foot high.

The Leaves are of a fresh fine green, and full of a milky juice.

The Flowers are numerous, and of a pale lemon-yellow.

They

They blow in June; and so on to November.

The Plant is but five weeks from its Seeds falling to the new brood flowering and ripening their Seeds again. We call such Annual; but we allow too much time; many successions rise and decay in the space of a summer.

The earlier Botanists have talked of many kinds of Sowthistle, which were only varieties of this; the jagged leav'd, the entire leav'd, the broad, and the narrow: but I have fairly try'd them here at Bayswater; and the Seeds of either raises all, so they are only accidental differences.

#### 4. SONCHUS ASPER. PRICKLY SOWTHISTLE.

The Leaves are prickly round their edges.

This is an Annual also; it plagues our kitchen gardeners, just as the former; and is no less frequent: a robust, tall, leafy Plant.





1  
*Sonchus oleraceus*  
Common Sowthistle

2  
*Sonchus asper*  
Prickly Sowthistle





The Stalk is very thick, tender, of a fine green, and two foot high.

The Leaves are of a fresh green, juicy, and tender.

The Flowers are numerous, small, and yellow.

They blow from month to month all summer.

Nature that has given this Plant in such abundance, kindly considered her creatures in it. Numbers of the lesser animals live upon it: the hare, the rabbit, and that innocent kind, all in a manner, live upon its Leaves and tender Shoots; innumerable birds feed upon its Seeds; and a legion of the summer Insects find food and shelter in its Branches. There is frequently seen on its Leaves a white line, trac'd in various meanders; true love knots and roses; the Leaf resembles a piece of Ægyptian marble when thus painted; in these hollows lives a worm safe, between the two skins, feeding upon the abundant juice, and, at length, hatching into an elegant Fly.

But

The Leaves from the Root are of a pale green, with long, rough, black hairs.

The Flowers are yellow, very bright, and shining.

They blow in August.

The use of this Herb is external; but it is very eminent: it cools, softens, and heals. I saw this year an arm covered with fiery pustules, on the one half, and the other with terrible remains of scratching, cured by it in four days: the Leaves were beat to a poultice with bread, milk, and a little oil, and ty'd round the arm.

## 2. HYPOCHÆRIS MACULATA.

### SPOTTED GOSMORE.

The Leaves are oval, undivided, and spotted.

This is a Biennial; a small, but singular Plant; we have it on Newmarket heath, but it is not common.

The



*Character Genericus*



1  
*Hypochaeris*  
*radicata*

Long-rooted Hawkweed

*Hypochaeris*  
*maculata* 2

Spotted  
Gosmore

3  
*Hypochaeris*  
*glabra*

Smooth  
Gosmore





The Stalk is seven inches high, tough, slender, and naked.

The Leaves are of a pale green, spotted with black.

The Flowers are of a fine light yellow.

They blow in August.

A cobbler of Cambridge, who used to teach Botany, told the Students this took off freckles: the young women washed their faces with it; and, as they say, with success. I have not seen it try'd; but it is innocent.

### 3. HYPOCHÆERIS GLABRA.

#### SMOOTH GOSMORE.

This is a Biennial; a little Plant, of our high grounds, but not common.

The Stalk is hard, leafless, and a pale green.

The Leaves are of a bright shining green.

The Flowers are pale yellow; and their long Cups make them look very pretty.

N<sup>o</sup> III.

E

They

[ 50 ]

They blow in August.

It has the taste of the two former, but faint,  
and unpromising.

F I N I S.



# I N D E X

O F

## H E R B S.

A.

<b>A</b> Bsynthium	—	—	—	6
/ Artemisia	—	—	—	1

C.

Catsfoot	—	—	—	20
✓ Cudweed	—	—	—	15

E.

Everlasting	—	—	—	26
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G.

✓ Gnaphalium	—	—	—	15
✓ Goatsbeard	—	—	—	33
✓ Gosmore	—	—	—	47
✓ Groundfell	—	—	—	29

H.

✓ Hypochæris	—	—	—	47
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J.

✓ Jasione	—	—	—	31
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M.

/ Mugwort	—	—	—	1
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R.

✓ Rampion, Sheeps	—	—	—	31
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S.

Salsafie	—	—	—	37
✓ Senecio	—	—	—	29
✓ Sheeps Rampion	—	—	—	31
✓ Sonchus	—	—	—	38
Southernwood	—	—	—	10
✓ Sowthistle	—	—	—	38

T.

✓ Tragopogon	—	—	—	33
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W.

✓ Wormwood	—	—	—	6
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I N D E X

# I N D E X

## O F

### D I S E A S E S, &c.

A.	
<b>A</b> ppetite, want of	8
B.	
Bowels, weak	24
Breasts, Sore	31
Bruises	27
C.	
Chin Cough	17
D.	
Deafness	40
Digestion, weak	8
E.	
Eruptions	48
F.	
Fluxes	22
G.	
Gall, obstructed	38
Gout	14
Gravel	14, 34, 46
H.	
Hooping Cough	17
Q.	
Quinſies	28
S.	
Stomach, Disorders of	8
U.	
Urine, Difficulty of	46
W.	
Weakness of Stomach	8
Womens Disorders	4
Worms in Horses	20











Sannders

1/6

28 Dec 1821



